Nº 19. Pensacola 15th Septemr 1777

My Lord

I am extremly sorry to be under the neces-sity of breaking in upon your Lordship's time by sub-mitting to you herewith Wm Taitt's case in a Law suit in which he was involved by having complied with my Instructions as appears by a Copy of his Letter to me, which I also have the honour of inclosing.

In the year 1763, in consequence of His Majesty's Commands signified by the Earl of Egremont; I sum-moned the principal Chiefs of the Indian Tribes in this District to meet me with the Governours of Virginia South and North Carolinas, and Georgia, at Fort Augusta in the last Province; where amongst many other Stipu-lations, it was agreed; that for every fugitive Slave taken up and delivered to the Commissary in any Nation, or to the Keepper of any of the publick Jails, in any Province by the Indians a reward should be paid at the rate of Fifty pounds weight half dressed Deer Skins, equal to Five pounds Sterling, or an equivalent in such goods as the Indians should choose. This agreement was entered into by the Governors and me, as the most likly means of obviating the Danger which might arise to His Majesty's Southern Provinces by a Connection between the Indians and their Slaves, and the Latter finding an Azylum in the Indian Towns.

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The Treaty of which this Agreement made an Article was approved of by His Majesty and has, since, been repeatedly renewed and Confirmed at different Meetings. In consequence of which I gave Instructions to My Deputies and Commissaries in the different Nations, to pay the Stipulated reward for Negroes so taken and delivered to them by the Indians, and it is to this Instruction that Mr Taitt points in his Letters to me

As the Inclosed Case states every Circumstance of this Law Suit very clearly I shall only beg leave to trouble your Lordship by observing that a Provincial Law of West Florida cannot I humbly conceive operate beyond the Limits of the Province, and is insufficient to bind me and my Deputies in the different Nations, in recovering Slaves the property of Persons resident in other provinces, from the Indians; or to invalidate the agreement so solemnly entered into by all the Governours of the Southern District, at that time, and the Superintendant, ratified and approved by His Majesty's Command.

Besides the base stated by Mr Taitt's Counsel I also submit the record of the Court under the great Seal of the Province which is only fit for a Lawyer to look at. By this Nonsuit we are entirly deprived of all reddress in this Province which consideration obliges me to submit the whole to your Lordship.

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The detention gives uneasyness to every Individual of this Province, as under such a dispensation of Jus-tice no man thinks his property secure The detention and Sale of the Slaves sent down by Mr Taitt is said to have been in Consequence of Advice given to the Deputy Provost Marshal Mr Macullough by Mr Edmund Rush Wegg attorney Genl of this Province

I have the honour of being with the utmost Respect-

My Lord

Your Lordship's

most obedient and

most humble Servant

John Stuart

The Right Honble
Lord George Germain
One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State

Endorsed Pensacola 15th Septr. 1777./ Mr Stuart./ (No. 19) (4 encs.)
/Ry 18th Febry 1778. /(3 Inclosures.)

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Ep. 17
p. 1 of orig.

Case

David Taitt Esqr. has for several years past resided and acted as a Deputy Super-Intendant of Indian Affairs in the Creek Nation, under the Honble John Stuart Esquire Superintendant of Indian Affairs, for the Southern Department of America. Among other Instructions given to him, officialy, by the Sup. Intendant, He was ordered to take up all Runaway Slaves, and convey them as soon as possible to their Owners, where ever. And in Consequence of a solemn Treaty made and concluded with the Leading and Chief Men of different Indian Nations and Tribes, at a Congress held by their Excellencies the Governors of Virginia, North, and South Carolina, and Georgia, and the Honorable John Stuart in the Year 1765, which was afterwards ratified and confirmed by his Present Majesty, Mr. Taitt was further Ordered, by the Super-Intendant, to allow and pay to the Savages and Indian Traders, or other Persons taking up runaway Slaves, at the Rate of 50 lb of Leather for taking up every such runaway Slave.

In Obedience to these Order and Instructions, Mr. Taitt soon afterwards, caused several runaway Slaves from Carolina and the other Neighbouring Colonies, to be taken up in the Creek Nation; and after paying the

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Sum above stipulated, for each, conveyed or sent them escorted to their respective Owners: who thankfully paid the Price which he had advanced, with all contingent Charges.

In the Month of January 1775, Mr Taitt ordered the Savages to take up seven runaway Negro Slaves then lurking in the Creek Nation; for which he paid them, by the Hands of Jacob Munrae his Indian Interpreter, the Price stipulated by the above mentioned Treaty. And having secured the Negroes for some Time, at last, was informed That they belonged to a Person in Georgia, and soon afterwards sent them escorted by a Party of trusty Indians to be delivered to their Owners. But the Negroes, in the Course of such a long Journey, through a desert Country, unwilling to return to their Owners, found Means to make their Escape, and baffled all the Endeavours of their Escort to retake them. However, they wandered back again to the Creek Nation, tho' not immediately to the Place where they were first taken up; and by the Vigilance and Activity of Mr Taitt were retaken, and after he had again paid the Price Stipulated as above, were sent by him, under a Strong Party to be delivered to their Owner in Georgia. Being now more desperate, and unwilling to return to their Owner, they again attempted in

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the Loss of their Journey, to escape; and in the Pursuit to retake them one of them was shot dead by the Savages of the Party escorting them, another was drowned in swiming over a River, and a third escaped and never since has been heard of; and the other four were retaken in the Pursuit, and brought back to Mr. Taitt, who was still obliged to pay the Price above stipulated for retaking them. [p.19, p.3]

By this Time the unnatural Rebellion, then and now raging in the Colonies, had gained such firm Ground in Georgia, where the Owner of the Negroes resided that Mr. Taitt thought It would be highly impolitic, for him, to send the four remaining Negroes there, especialy as he was uncertain whether their Owner was a Loyal Subject or Rebel. He therefore sent them, as soon as was convenient for him, along with three other runaway Slaves taken up in the Creek Nation, the Property of Gentlemen well affected to his Majesty and Government in South Carolina, under the Care of a strong Party to be delivered to Charles Stuart Esq.r Deputy Superintendant of Indian affairs at Mobille; with Instructions to him to dispose of and sell the four Georgia Negroes at Mobille; and to send the other three to their Owners in South Carolina, by the first favourable Opportunity. But the four Georgia Negroes, in Spite of all

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the Vigilance of their Escort, escaped again: and the
[W. 20 p. 4]
other three were delivered to Mr Charles Stuart, and by him sent to the Honorable David Hodge Esqr at Pensacola, who delivered them to Alexander Ma-
-cullagh Esqr, Deputy Provost Marshall to be secured in Goal untill Mr Hodge should demand them, which he did in a little Time; and upon his paying their Goal Fees they were delivered to him.

The other four Negroes were again retaken, and brought back to Mr Tait who paid as be-
-fore the Sums stipulated for taking them up. He had now paid and advanced upwards of £100 Sterl for the taking and retaking the first mentioned sev-
-en Negroes, four of whom only now remained in his Custody: and as the Rebellion still raged in Georgia where their Owner resided, and having no Prospect of being reimbursed from that Quarter, he resolved to send them to Pensacola, with Instructions to sell them at Public Vendue to the highest Bidder, for the Benefit of the Owner and to reimburse him-
-self. And accordingly, in the Month of March 1776, sent the said four Negroes, the Remainder of the above mentioned seven, under the Care of a strong Party of white Men and Savages to Pensacola,
[W. 21 p. 57]
with a Letter directed to Mr William Wilton his cor-
-respondent there, where the Party arrived on the Sixth

Day of April following: and Mr. Willon being then absent, on a Survey of Lands, Mr. Taitt's Letter, directed to him, was opened and read by the Honorable Elias Durnford Esquire Lieutenant Governor of West Florida; who found by the Contents, and an Account therein inclosed, that Mr. Taitt had paid and expended upwards of £100 Sterl. for taking, retaking, and finding with Provisions the said Seven Negroes, and conveying four of them to Pensacola: and that Mr. Willon was thereby directed and requested to secure the said four Negroes, and to sell them with all Convenient speed, that Mr. Taitt might be reimbursed his Money, and the Owner, if not a Rebel, have the Overplus.

In Consequence of the above mentioned Letter and Instructions, Governor Durnford ordered the Party to carry the four Negroes to the Goal of Pensacola: where he also went himself, and ordered Underwood the Goaler to take Care and keep them safe for a few Days, untill they should be disposed of. Underwood asked him "whether he would not give "him a regular Committment of the Negroes as Runaways?" and Governor Durnford told him "he would "not" as He meant to take them out of Goal, and sell them in a few Days; He also proposed [f. 22, p. 2,] to Mr. Macullagh the Deputy Provost Marshal that if he

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would pay the Amot of Mr. Taitt's Disbursments (which he showed to him) on Acct. of taking retak-ing &c; the said seven Negroes that he might keep and dispose of them as he should think proper: but this Mr. Macullagh seemed unwilling to comply with, alledging that the Act of the Province relative to the taking up runaway Slaves would not allow so much.

Governor Durnford, therefore in Order that he might comply with Mr. Taitt's Instructions, gave Orders to Mr. Amoss the Vendue Master at Pensacola, to ad-vertise the four Negroes for Sale: but was sur-prized, on the Morning of the Day appointed for the Sale, when he was informed, by the Vendue Master, that Mr. Macullagh the Deputy Provost Mar-shal had ordered them to be detained in Prison,. and would not allow them to be delivered up.

As the Negroes were not committed to Goal by the Warrant or Process of any Magistrate or Court, and only lodged in the Manner and for the Reason above mentioned, Governor Durnford con-[p. 23 r. 7] sidered Mr. Macullagh's Refusal to / deliver them, to his Order, as the highest Insult to Justice, and strong-ly remonstrated against the Detintion of them, but in Vain. He now considered his own Reputation, in some Degree, concerned in the Matter; and so san-guine was he to acequit himself, and obtain Justice

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to Mr. Taitt, that he went in Person and stated the Case to his Excellency Peter Chester Esquire the Governor of the Province: who refused to interfere in the Matter. Finding now that the Deputy Provost Marshals Obstinacy prevented the Negroes being sold, Governor Durnford offered to give him a Bond of Indemnification in £500 Ster.g if He would deliver up the Negroes to him, which He consented to, and the Bond was actualy prepared, but at the Time It was to be executed and delivered, Mr. Macullagh refused to comply with his Promise, saying he had taken the Advice of Counsel, and would keep the Negroes for a twelve Month and a Day.

Mr. Taitt having now no other Remedy to re-cover his Money but by Action at Law, and not a sufficient Title or Property in the Negroes to support an Action of Detinue, Trover, or Replevin (having on-ly a mere Chose in Action) brought a special Action on the Case upon Assumpsit, against Alexander Macullagh the Deputy Provost Marshal aforesaid.

[p. 24, p. 83]

/The Plaintiff David Taitt by John Morison his Attorney in the first Count of his Declaration filed, sets forth — "That the Defd. Alexr. Macullagh Esqr; Dep. Prov. Marshal of West Florida on the 6th. Day of April 1776 at Pensacola was indebted to Plff in £116. 9. 10½ for Money pd. and expended for

"taking up &c; Seven runaway Negroes in the Creek
"Nation the Property of a certain Person in Georgia
"and conveying four of them to Pensacola and de-
"-livering them to Deft to be by him safely kept in
"Goal &c for the Use of and to secure the Paymt
of said Sum to Plff.

The second Count of the Declon states "that
"Deft at the Time and Place aforesaid was indebted
"to Plff in the further Sum of £116 . 9 . 10½ being
"for Money pd laid out expended for taking up &c;
"&c; in the Creek Indian Nation four runaway
"Slaves the Property of a Person in Georgia & con-
"-veying them to Pensacola and delivering them to
"Deft to be safely kept in Goal for the Use of
"and to secure the Paymt of sd Sum of Money to Plff

[p. 25 p. 93]

"And that Deft well knowing that Plff had
"paid said Money as aforesaid, in Consideration
"thereof assumed upon himself that he the Deft the
"afsd Sums of Money due and owing as afsd well and
"truly would pay unto Plff, or render back and re-
"-store to Plff the said four runaway Slaves so had
"& detained by Deft when Deft should afterwards be
thereunto requested.

The 3d Count of the Declon is upon a Quant
"-um Meruit - And Plff avers that he reasonably ought
"to have for taking up sd seven runaway Negroes, finding

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"them wt Provisions and conveying them to Pensacola,
"£116. 9. 10½ of which Deft had Notice at Pensa-
"-cola the 11th Oct 1776.—

"That Nevertheless Deft had not pd the sd
"Sums of Money or any Part thereof nor deliv'd
"back the sd four Negroes or any or either of them
"to the Plff although often requested but wholly had
"refused to pay the said Money or any Part of It
"or to render back and restore the said four Ne-
"-groes or any or either of them to the Damage of
"Plff of £240. for wch he brought Suit &c;

To this Decton the Deft by Elihu Hall Bay his Atty pleaded the General Issue "That he did "not assume in Manner & Form as afsd - And the "Plff by his Atty afsd joined in Issue - and a Ven-"-ire was awarded to the Coroner of West Florida to "cause a Jury to come before Wm Clifton Esqr Chief "Justice of the Genl Crt of Pleas at Pensacola on the "2d Tuesday of July 1777 &c.

This Cause came on to be tried before William Clifton Esqr Chief Justice aforesaid, on the 11th Day of July afsd, and the Jury to wit David Hodge, William Ogilvy, David Holmes, William Clark, James Amess, John Mitchell, John Crozier, William Williams, John Ritson, Benjamin Glover James Aird, and Robert Foley, being duly impaneled & sworn, John Morison, the Atty and

Counsel for Pltf, opened the Pleadings and Pltf's Case as above stated:- And then proceeded to call Jacob Munive above Named as a Witness - to prove the taking up and retaking the above mentioned Seven Run-away Negroes, and the Prices above stated p.d by him to the Savages at different Times, by Orders of his Em-ployer Mr Taitt, the Pltf above Named.

And also had served Lgov.r Dumford with a Supena who attended as a Witness to prove the Delivery of the four Negroes to the Deputy Provost Mar-shals Lgal Keeper, in special Confidence, that they should be delivered back in a few Days when called for - And that he, Lgov.r Dumford, had actualy demanded the Restitution of them from Alex.r Ma-cullagh the Dep. Prov. Marshall, and offered to pay him their Lgal Fees, but that he the s.d Alex.r Ma-cullagh had refused to deliver them, and since sold them and converted the Monies to his own or other Uses.

(p. 24 n 117)

At this Stage of the Cause before the s.d Wit-nesses were sworn or examined on Behalf of Pltf - The Attorney for Deft., very irregularly, moved the Court to Nonsuit Plaintiff; alledging that the Action would not ly against Deft because not brought under a certain Act of the Province relative to runaway Negroes.

The Plaintiff's Counsel treated this absurd Mo-tion with the Contempt which It deserved, untill he

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found that the Chief Justice favoured this Motion.— And then insisted that the Issue was to the Country, that It was not now a Matter of Law to be determined — but a Matter of Fact — And that Deft by his own Laches had lost any Benefit of the Act or Law mentioned (if any he ever had) by not pleading the Act, or demurring. — Besides the Act mentioned relates only to Inhabitants of the Province afsd taking up Negroes there — and could by no Means, or Construction of Law, affect Mr Taitt the Pltf. who resided in the Creek Nation, where the Act alluded to, or any other Act of West Florida Legislation had no Effect — Besides had the [p. 20] Pltf. been intitled to the Benefit of the Act, It would have given him a Remedy, for more than a fourth Part of the Money which he had paid under the Superintendant's Instructions; and then would have subjected him to the Penalty of a much greater Sum, for not delivering the Negroes up sooner, which he had It not in his Power to do — And that if the Chief Justice would take upon him to Nonsuit Plaintiff — It would be the highest Act of Injustice —

However, the Chief Justice declared himself determined — said the Action would not ly against the Defendt — had, contrary to every established Maxim of Law and Practice, declared and Ordered the Pltf to be

Nonsuited, and the Jury to be discharged: to the Sur-
-prize of the Jurors and the greatest Part of the People
then in Court.

This extraordinary Determination has left Mr.
Taitt the Plff in the above Cause without Remedy, in
any Court of this Province: for the Judgmt in this
Case, as It now is entered, is not only erroneous in
Form but false: and would certainly be reversed by Writ
of Error, but the Governor is not allowed by his Ma-
-jestys Instructions to grant Writs of Error or Appeal
for less than £500 & this Judgmt is for a Sum much
below that.

Pensacola 4th Augt 1777

John Morison
Atty on Record & Counsel
for David Taitt in the
above mentioned Cause.

[p. 30] Endorsed In Mr Stuarts (No 19) of 15th Septr 1777. (1)

[p. 31]

(Copy)

Pensacola 13th July 1777

Sir

Before I set out for the Creek Nation I beg leave to lay before you the great hardship that I lay under by the determination of the Chief Justice in favour of the deputy Provost Marshall, Mr McCulloch—

Agreable to my Instructions from you of the 2d. of August 1772. I have redeemed from the Creek Indians, from the 28th. December 1774 to the 21 January 1776 Sundrie runaway Negroes to the Number of Sixteen belonging to different Persons in the Provinces of South Carolina and Georgia and paid the Stipulated sum of the Value of Fifty pounds of dress Leather, in goods for each Negro, several of said Slaves have at different times been sent to the Owners, others made their escape and got away from their Conductors which Occasioned me to be at a far greater Expence than otherwise I should have been, as I was obliged to pay the Indians for retaking them as much as they cost at first, in the Month of May 1775 I sent off Six Negroes to be delivered to the Keeper of the Goal at Augusta, untill Claimed by the Owner, two of which got safe down two were retaken & delivered by the Indians to me, the other two got entirely off.

The unhappy disputes broke out [p. 32] soon after in Georgia which prevented my being able to send any more

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that way I therefore in April 1776 sent four Negroe fellows to this place belonging to some persons in Georgia in Order to have them sold to defray the Expences that I had been at with them, and to avoid accumilating any further expence sent them to my Correspondant Mr. Willon he not being in this place at the time of their arrival here, Lieut Gov-ernor Durnford had them secured in Goal untill that he could dissppose of them to reimburse me my Expences in taking them up and sending them, but never committed as runaway Negroes, however when the Lieut Governor sent for them, he was re-fused them by Mr McCulloch the dupuity Provost Mar-shall who said that Mr Wigg His Majesty's Attorney had given his Opinion to detain the Slaves in Goal on pretence of a Law of this Province respecting run-away Negroes; In Octo. last I applyed to Mr McCul-loch for payment of my Account against said Slaves but was refused any payment, which obliged me to seek my remedy at Law. I accordingly Commenced a Suit against Mr McCulloch in January and sent Evi-dence from the Creek Nation to prove the Payment
[p.38] of the different Articles to the Indians; but /the Trial was put off untill April Court, which was the Oc-casion of my requesting your leave to attend here.

On the Eleventh Instant the Jury being Sworn

to try the Cause and after Mr. Morrison my Counsil had Opened and Stated the Matter to the Court and Jury; Mr. Clifton the Chief Justice without ever Suffering the matter to come before a Jury or even paying that attention to the Evidence Offered, which in my Opinion & I believe in the opinion of every one present at Court, he ought to have, he caused me to be non suited with Costs. Such a glaring piece of injustice in Open Court convinces me that I need expect not even the smallest appearance of Justice, much less the payment of the Money justly due me for what I paid for these Slaves –

As I have paid these different sums of Money in Obedience to my Instructions, and purely to get the property restored back to the Owners without the least view of any gain to myself, not even the Interest of the Money laid out; I think, Sir, that it will be Extremly hard if I must bear the whole of this Loss while the deputy Provost Marshall is so Considerable a gainer without paying any thing he having sold the Slaves without ever puting it in the power of the Owners to Prove, or know where their Property was. I hope Sir, that you will take this Matter into Consideration and if in your Power to allow me what you shall see

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first. As I have besides the Sums paid for the Slaves paid a man for taking care of them un-till delivered up here

I have the Honour to be with the greatest respect

Sir

your most obt
& most humble Servant
(Signed) David Taitt –

John Stuart Esqr.

Endorsed Copy of Mr Taitts Letr –
/In Mr. Stuarts (No 19) of /15th Septr 1777./(2)

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[Taitt, Aug. 20. 1777]

[illegible] more away.
Ep. 967

West Florida,

I Peter Chester Esquire, Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of West Florida, and the Territories depending thereon in America, Chancellor and Vice Admiral of the Same &c. —

Do hereby Certify and make known, to all to whom these Presents shall Come, or may in any wise Concern, That William Clifton Esquire who hath Certified the annexed Paper writing marked (A.) (containing ten Pages, and half of writing) purporting to be an Exemplified Copy of the Record of the Pleas and Judgement in a Plea of Trespass upon the Case (wherein David Taitt, is said to be Plaintiff] and Alexander Macullagh Esquire Deputy Provost Marshal, Defendant) remaining among the R[ ] Enrolled in the General Court of Pleas at Pensacola the Province of West Florida; and who hath also Signed the annexed paperwriting marked (C.) (con[ ] about One page of writing) purporting to be a Certif[ ] that John Allen Martin Esquire therein named (who hath Signed the paperwriting in the said Cer[ ] referred to, marked (B.) and hereunto also annexed) is Chief Clerk of His

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Majesty's Court of Pleas in and for the Province aforesaid - is Chief Justice of this His Ma-
-jesty's said Province; and that to all Acts and Instruments by him so Signe[d] and Certified, full and entire faith and Cre[dit] is and ought to be given: And further that Elias Durnford Es-
-quire who hath Sign[ed] /the annexed paper Writ-
-ing marked (D.) (containing one page and one half of writing) purporting to be the joint affi-
-davit of David Hodge, William Ogilvy David Holmes William Clarke James Amoss John Mitchell, John Crozer, William Williams John Ritson - Benjamin Gouver - James Aird and Robert Foley - taken and Sworn to, by the said several Deponents the twen-
-ty first day of August now last past - is in the Commission of the Peace, for the said Pro-
-vince; and that to all Acts and Instruments, by him so signed and Certified full and entire faith and Credit, is and ought to be given -

In Testimony and Confirm-
-ation whereof I have here-
-unto Set my Hand and
Caused the Great Seal of this
His Majesty's said Provin[ce] to
be hereunto put and affixed
and the said several Paper

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writings herein above referred
to, marked (A.) (B.) (C.) and (D.)
to be hereunto also annexed
at Pensacola this Third day
of September in the Seventeenth
Year of the Reign of Our Sov.
-ereign Lord King George the
Third, Anno, que Domini 1777-

Pr Chester

His Excellency's Commands.
Ph: Livingston Junr. D. Secy

[Written on the margin of the front page is :-]
The Seal of West Florida, taken off by
Wm P.

(A)

George the third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the faith and so forth To all to whom these our Present Letters shall come Greeting Know ye That among the Pleas enrolled in the General Court of Pleas at Pensacola in the Province of West Florida before William Clifton Esquire Chief Justice of the said Province of July Court in the Seventeenth year of our reign it is thus Contained —

Pleas before the Honorable William Clifton Esquire Chief Justice of the Province of West Florida at Pensacola of July Term in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven and in the Seventeenth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third of Great Britain &c King &c

Pensacola ss David Taitt puts in his Place John Morison his Attorney against Alexander Macullagh in a Plea of Trespass upon the Case &c (p.98)

Pensacola ss Alexander Macullagh Esquire Deputy Provost Marshal of the Province of West Florida aforesaid puts in his place Elihu Hall Bay his Attorney in the above Plea

Pensacola ss Be it Remembered that Alexander

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Macullagh Deputy Provost Marshal of the Province of West Florida aforesaid was attached to answer unto David Taitt in a Plea of Trespass upon the Case And Whereupon the said David Taitt by John Morison his Attorney Complains that Whereas the said Alexander Macullagh on the sixth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy six at Pensacola aforesaid was Indebted (last) to the said David Taitt in the sum of one hundred and sixteen pounds nine Shillings and ten Pence half penny of Lawful money of Great Britain being for money said laid out and Expended for taking up in the Creek Indian Nation (p. 39) seven Runaway Negro Men Slaves - Named Tom. Ned. Billy. Toby. Frederick Sandy and Primus or Jemmy or Prema the property of and belonging to a Certain Person or Planter in the Province of Georgia and for finding the said seven Slaves with Provisions for a long Space of time and Conveying four of the said Slaves to Pensacola aforesaid had and received into the Custody of him the said Alexander Macullagh to be detained in the Prison of Pensacola aforesaid for the use of . and to secure the said sum of Money to him the said David Taitt And Whereas also the said Alexander Macullagh on the day and year aforesaid at Pensacola aforesaid was Indebted to the said David Taitt in the further sum of one hundred

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and sixteen pounds nine Shillings and ten pence half penny of Lawful Money aforesaid for so much money paid laid out and expended for taking up in the Creek Indian Nation finding Provisions for and Conveying to Pensacola four Negro Men Slaves Called and Known by the Names of Toby Frederick Sandy and Primus or Jemmy / or Brema the property of a Certain Person or Planter in the Province of Georgia aforesaid had and received into the Custody of him the said Alexander Macullagh for the use of and to Secure the said Sum of Money to him the said David Taitt And whereas also the said Alexander Macullagh not being Ignorant of the Premisses aforesaid but well Knowing that the said David Taitt had paid laid out and Expended the said sums of Money for taking up in the Indian Nations aforesaid finding Provisions for the said Seven Negro Slaves and Conveying to Pensacola aforesaid the said four Runaway Negro. Men Slaves so had and received into the Custody of the said Alexander Macullagh for the use of and to Secure the payment of the said sums of Money to him the said David Taitt in Consideration of all and Singular the Premisses aforesaid assumed upon himself and to the said David Taitt then / And there faithfully promised that he the said Alexander Macullagh the aforesaid sums of Money due and owning as aforesaid to the said David

Taitt for and account of the said runaway Negro
Men Slaves well and truly would pay unto him the
said David Taitt or render back and restore to him
the said David Tait the said four runaway Negro
Men Slaves so had and detained by him the said
Alexander Macullagh as aforesaid when he the said
Alexander should thereunto afterwards be requested
And whereas the said Alexander Macullagh afterwards
to wit the same day and year last aforesaid at
Pensacola aforesaid in Consideration that the said
David Taitt had before that time delivered to him
the said Alexander Macullagh the said four run-
-away Negro Men Slaves assumed upon himself and
to the said David Taitt then and there faithfully
promised That he the said Alexander Macullagh would
well and truely pay and satisfy unto him the said
David Taitt all such sums of Money as he the said
David Taitt reasonably deserved to have for the tak-
-ing up & finding Provisions for the said seven run-
-away Negro Men Slaves and keeping to Pensacola
aforesaid the said four run-away negro men Slaves or
render back and restore the said four runaway Negro
men Slaves to him the said David Taitt when there-
-unto afterwards he the said Alexander Macullagh should
be required And the said David Taitt in fact saith
that he reasonably deserved to have for the taking

on the said seven runaway negro Men Slaves and finding them with Provisions and conveying the said four runaway Negro Men Negro (sic) Men Slaves abovenamed to Pensacola as aforesaid the sum of one hundred and sixteen pounds nine Shillings and ten pence half penny Sterling Lawful Money aforesaid of which the said David Taitt afterwards to wit the Eleventh day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy six at Pensacola aforesaid to the said Alexander Maculliagh gave Notice Nevertheless the said Alexander Maculliagh in no wise regarding his aforesaid several promises (sic) And undertakings made in Manner aforesaid but Contriving and fraudulently Intending Craftily and subtilly to deceive and defraud the said David Taitt in this behalf hath not as yet paid or in any wise satisfied the aforesaid several sums of Money or any part thereof or delivered the said four runaway Negro Men Slaves or any or either of them to the said David Taitt according to his Promises and Assumptions aforesaid Although to do the same he the said Alexander Maculliagh afterwards that is to say on the eighteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy six at Pensacola aforesaid and Often afterwards was requested by the said David Taitt to pay to him the aforesaid several sums of Money or render back and

restore the said four runaway negro Men Slaves to him the said David Taitt according to his the said Alexander Maeullaghs Promises and Assumptions afore-said but wholly hath refused either to pay the afore-said several sums of Money or to render and re-turn back to the said David Taitt the said four [p. 113] runaway Negro Men Slaves / or any or either of them to the Damage of the said David Tait of two hundred and forty pounds of Lawful Money of Great Britain and thereof he brings suit &c And the said Alexander Maeullagh by Elihu Hall Bay his attorney cometh and Defendeth the force and Injury when &c and saith that he did not assume upon himself in Manner and form as the aforesaid David Tait against him hath complain-ed and of this he putteth himself upon the Country And the aforesaid David Taitt doth so likewise Therefore the Provost Marshal is Commanded that he Cause a Jury to Come before William Clifton Esquire Chief Jus-tice of the General Court of Pleas at Pensacola on the second Tuesday in April next who neither &c to recognize &c and because as well &c the same day is given to the Parties aforesaid &c At which day before William Clif-[p. 114] ton Esquire Chief Justice of the General / Court of Pleas at Pensacola aforesaid Came the Parties aforesaid by their At-torney aforesaid and the Provost Marshall of the Province afore-said did not return the said writ nor did they do any

thing thereupon Therefore it is suggested to the Court here that Alexander Maculloch the Deputy of the Provost Mar-shal of the Province aforesaid is a Party to and Defen-dant in the above action the Coroner of the Province aforesaid is commanded to cause a Jury to come be-fore William Clifton Esquire Chief Justice of the General Court of Pleas at Pensacola on the second Tuesday in July next who Neither &c to recognize &c because as well &c the same day is given to the Parties aforesaid. At which day before the Honorable William Clifton Esquire Chief Justice aforesaid at Pensacola aforesaid came as well the said Alexander Maculloch as the said David Taitt by their Attorney, aforesaid and the Jurors of the Jury whereof Mention is above made Summoned to be on that Jury also came and being Impanelled and Called / over were tried and Sworn and after Evidence to them of and up-on the Premisses given from the Bar here to Consult to give their verdict thereon withdrew and having Consulted among themselves and agreed to give their Verdict thereon to the Bar returned. Whereupon the said David Taitt altho Solemnly Called doth not come nor fur-ther Prosecutes his Bill Within Written a-gainst the said alexander Maculloch but made Default

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Judgment
Signed 31st July 1777

(Signed)
W: Clifton C.J

Therefore it is Considered that the said Alexander Ma'cullagh do go thereof without day &c And that the said David Taitt and his Pledges of Prosecution to wit John Doe and Richard Roe be in Mercy &c

Costs allowed pursuant to the Statute £14 : 8 : 2

(Signed) W. Clifton C.J.

[p. 29]

All and Singular which premises at the request of the said David Taitt by the Tenor of these Presents we have held good to be Exemplified In Testimony whereof we have Caused our Seal appointed for Sealing of writs in the Court aforesaid to be affixed to these Presents Witness William Clifton Esquire our said Chief Justice at Pensacola the Twentieth .. day of August in the Seventeenth year of our Reign.

W: Clifton C.J.

Seal impressed on [illegible] wafers

[p.49]

(B)

West Florida General Court of Pleas

July Term 1777

David Tait
agt
Alexander Macullagh
D. P. Marshall
} In Case

The following Jurors Sworn

David Hodge	John Grozer
William Ogilvy	William Williams
David Holmes	John Hitson
William Clark	Benjamin Glover
James Amoss	James Aird
John Mitchell	Robert Foley

The Counsel for the Plaintif opened the Declar-ation and Staled the Evidence in support thereof To which the Defendants Counsel making several Objections to the Plaintifs being admitted to go into any Evidence thereon the Declaration being Insufficient to Charge the Defendant as Provost Marshall according to the Act of the Province

The Court after hearing the Plaintifs Counsel in Reply [p.50] allowed the Objections and Refused to let him produce any Evi-dence therefore the Plaintiff was nonsuited and the Jury Discharged

A True Copy of the Minute taken in the aforesaid Court

J A Martin
D. C. Pleas

(C)

Province of West Florida

By the Honorable William Clifton Esquire Chief Justice of the Province of West Florida aforesaid

To all People to whom these Presents shall come be seen or made Known Greeting Know ye that John Allen Martin Esquire who hath Certified the Copy of the [p.01] Minute aforesaid marked (B) is Chief Clerk of His Ma-jestys Court of Pleas in and for the Province aforesaid And therefore all due faith and Credit is and ought to be had and given to such his attestation as well in Court as out of Court

In Testimony whereof I have hereun-to set My Hand and Caused the Seal of the General Court of Pleas of the said Province to be there-unto affixed the Twentieth day of August in the seventeenth year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the third and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven

W. Clifton C: J:

[Seal impressed on paper over wafer]

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(D)

Province of
West Florida.

David Hodge, William Ogilvy, David Holmes, William Clarke, James Amos, John Mitchell, John Leroger, William Williams, John Ritson Benjamin Spriver, James Aird, Robert Foley, jointly and severaly make Oath and say, that being summoned as Jurors in a cause, wherein David Tait was plantiff and Alexander Macullagh Esquire Deputy provost Marshall of the province aforesaid was Defendant, they accordingly did attend at the General Court of pleas held at pensacola in and for the province aforesaid in July Term 1777 and being then and there impaneled, and Sworn a True Verdict to give according to the Evidence to be given to them in the said cause, John Morison, Attorney on Record, and Counsel for the plantiff, open'd the pleadings and stated plaintiffs case, and then proceeded to call Mr. Muniac a Witness in support of it, but was opposed by Defendants Attorney, who moved William Clifton Esquire the Chief-Justice of the province and Court aforesaid; to nonsuit plantiff, And these Deponents further say that plantiffs Counsel aforesaid opposed the said Motion, and said he could support his Declaration by Lieutenant Governor Durnford a witness then in Court, and insisted that to Nonsuit plantiff would be a high act of Injustice. And these Deponents say, that, nevertheless, William Clifton Esquire Chief Justice aforesaid said that the Action aforesaid would not lie [p. 54]

against Defendant, and in open Court in the hearing of there Depons he ordered plantiff to be Nonsuited; and there Deponents the Jurors to be Discharged.

And these Deponents further say that there no Witness was ever examined nor any Evidence given to them on the Tryal in said Cause, nor did they withdraw to consult to give their Verdict, & agree to give the same upon their return to the Bar; nor was the said plantiff David Tait Esqr though then present in Court solemnly call'd, and did not come as is entered in the said Judgment as appears by an Exemplification thereof, hereunto annexed.

David Hodge — Robert Foley

William Pillup — Ritson

Benjn Spencer

J. Crozier.

Jno Mitchell

James Cross

David Holms

Wm Williams

James Aird

William Clark

Sworn this 21st Day of August 1777 before me

Elias Durnford J.P.

[4 pds]

Endorsed [to include pp. 35-64] In Wm Stuarts (No. 19) / of 18 Septr 1777. (6) / dr

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[Joitt. Mar. 31. 1776]

[+ 1

Account of Money paid for the Undermentioned Negroes.

		£ s d	£ s d
1775 Jany	To Tobys proportion of £5 paid for taking up himself Tom & Ned by white men.....	2 . 10. .	
Mar 15	To Cash pd. for taking up Toby Tom & Ned by Indians after they had run away from the White People on their Way to Mobille Tobys proportion Tom being drowned.....	7 . 10. .	
	To Half of Toms Provision from 15 Mar. to 11 April 27 days a 1/ ₱ day.....	13. 6	
May 4.	To the 6th part of £135 Carolina Currt pd a party of Tuchabatchee Indians for retaking Toby & Five Others £20 16/8.....	2 . 19. 6¼	
	To provisions of Toby from 15 March 1775 to 31 March 1776. 1y & 16 days.....	19 . 1.	
Mar 31	To Horse hire Provisions & Mens wages carrying Toby to Pensacola.....	4 . 10. -	
	To his proportion of Sundrys Stolen from the Indians by himself Tom & Ned.....	17. -	
	To 1 pair Hand Cuffs.....	1 . . .	39. 1. 1
Apl 9	To Cash paid for a Negro fellow named Frederick or Yama.....	5 . - -	
	To provisions for do from 9 Apl to 14 May...	1 . 5. .	
	To Cash paid The Tuchabatchie Indians for retaking him at that Town.....	4 . 18. 10½	
	Carried Over		

Brought forward

	To do an Indian for conveying him from the Chickasaws to the Tallassies 100 miles	10. .	
	To Provisions for said Negro Frederick from 7 May 1775 to 31 March 1776. 327 days @ 1/	16. 7. -	
	To Expences in Carrying him to Pensacola ...	4. 10. -	
	To 1 Pr Hand Cuffs	1. . .	33. 10. 10½
1775 sept 1	To Cash paid for a Negro fellow named Killey.	5. . -	
Sept 1	To ditto for a Negro fellow Sandy	5. . .	
	To 2 Indians for retaking Sandy at the Chickasaws when Billey was Shot for resisting the Indians	2 10. -	
	To provisions for Sandy from 1 Sept 1775 to 31 March 1776 211 days.	10. 11. -	
Mar 31	To Expences in Carrying him to Pensacola ..	4. 10.	
	To 1 Pr Hand Cuffs	1. - -	28. 11. -
1776 jan 21	To Cash paid for a Negro named Jemmy ...	5. . .	
	To Provisions from 21 Jan to 31 March 69 days @ 1/ P day	3. 9 -	
Mar 31	To Expences in Carrying him to Pencacola ..	4. 10.	12. 19 -
			Sterling £114. 1. 10½

Errors Excepted.

David Tait

[4-78]

Endorsed In Mr Stuarts (N°20) of 16th October 1777 –

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W 20)

Pensacola 6th October 1777

My Lord,

Since my Letter N° 18. 22d August I have not been honoured with any of your Lordship's Commands

During the course of the summer the Creeks continued their Excursions against the settlements, but all their attacks were upon armed scouting Parties of the Rebels, in which they generally had the advantage, and as directed carefully avoided doing any Injury to the unarmed Inhabitants, except in one Instance when they attacked the Family of one Dilkes and killed his wife and Daughter, but even this Instance my Lord, was the effect of private pique & resentment. Dilkes lived without the settlement near the road to the Lower Creek Nation, his behaviour to the Indians upon all occasions was surly and inhospitable, he used to beat and abuse them, upon trifling pretences which was the true cause of the Missfortune which happened to his Family

Mr Galphin the Rebel Agent, had persuaded some of the Cussitah and Oakfushee Indians to visit Georgia. Some of their principal Chiefs were therefore conducted to Charles Town; where the Rebels displayed all their force and Riches, Their Garrison and Town Militia were paraded, the Chiefs were shown the Strength of their Batteries and Forts; particularly that at Sullivan's Island and the advantage gained there over the Kings Ships, was

described in the most exagerated terms. they were carried to see the Storehouses of Goods and Ammunition, they were entertained on board a number of French Vessels which lay in the Harbour, in the best manner: Mr Rutledge the Rebel Governour conferred with them in Council, where he lamented their blindness, in suffering themselves to be imposed upon and missled by me. He assured them that my Intentions were to involve them in a destructive war with the Provinces, and under the pretence of assisting them, when much reduced; to march a Body of Troops into their Nations, and cut them off. He told them that their Supplies of goods and Necessaries from hence would soon be stopped, for the French and Spaniards were to join them and would in a short time block up this Port when I of course must fall into their Hands. That if they persisted in carrying on War against the Provinces, their ruin would be inevitable, but if they would either kill my Deputies and Commissaries &c or drive them out of the Nation, he would afterwards consider them as Freinds and take care that they should be plentifully supplyed at the same time he magnified the power and Strength of the Americans, and told them that General Sir William Howe, had been totally defeated obliged to embark his Troops and fly. Your Lordship will easily conceive that such Treatment and Artifices must make a deep

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impression upon ignorant Indians, the most jealous and suspicious People upon Earth.

In the meantime my Deputies Mr Cameron [p.59] and Mr Taitt as well as the Commissaries, were indefatigable in their Endeavours to keep the Indians steady in their Attachment and Loyalty, for which purposes I deposited considerable quantities of Presents arms and Ammunition in their Hands. I empowered them, in Consequence of your Lordships and Sir William Howe's Letters to me; to embody and form Companies of such Refugees and other well affected white men as they could collect. Mr Taitt went to the Lower Towns where he called a Meeting of all the Cheifs, who attended except those of the Cussitahs; and a Message from Sir William Howe was read and explained to them; the Result was that a General Attack upon Georgia was agreed upon, as soon as provisions could be procur'd from the New Crop. Mr Taitt Despatched an Express to Brigadier General Prevost, to acquaint him of what had been resolved. At his return to the Upper Towns he Summoned the Cheifs, They met about the 15 September, they appeared to be entirly unanimous in their Determination, to make a general Attack upon the Rebels. Orders were given by the Cheifs to furnish themselves with Corn and other Provisions for the Expedition. The greatest part of the Traders offered themselves

as Volunteers, and with the Refugees made up about 200 whitemen. Mr Mackintosh had engaged a Con-siderable Body in the Lower Towns, and all his Traders were ready to march. I ordered the Seminollie Indians to Saint Augustine, under the Direction of Mr Burgess (p.m.) Assistant Commissary; They willingly complied and sent me the Answer of which I begg your Lordship's Leave to submitt a Copy. Nothing now seemed wanting but General Prevost's Answer and Approbation of our Plan; which was; To have made a Deversion in the back parts of Georgia, while the General should make an Impression by the Sea Coasts. The 23d ultimate was fixed upon for the last meeting where every matter was to have been ultimatly Arranged and settled. The Ex-pedition was to have been conducted by Mr Cameron and Mr Taitt; the former with his Company of Re-fugees and about 150 Cherokees; the Latter with the Traders, Captain Jachson's Company and some other Re-fugees to Lead the Creeks; while Mr McIntosh was to have joined them with the Lower Town's People The Indians appeared to be unannimously Determined and I was in the highest expectation that something of real Benefit to His Majesty's Service would have been done.

While these affairs were in Agitation, The Indians who had visited Charles Town returned, They

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convened People from all parts, and communicated what they had seen and what they had been told. The poison spread to many more and further than was expect.

I cannot describe to your Lordship how much I was surprised mortifyed and dissappointed, by a Letter from the Assistant Commissary Mr Alexander Mc Gillivray dated at Little Tallassee the 22d ultimate which I received on the 24th. Copy of which I submit, and begg your Lordship will be pleased to be re-ferred to it. I have not as yet learnt where Mr Cameron & Mr Taitt are gone / neither have I had (1960) any further Intelligence from the Upper Creeks. I have great hopes and Expectations from Mr McGillivrays Activity and Good Sense; who by his mothers side is a Creek, of powerfull Connections and Consequently will be safe. I have despatched an Express to him with Instructions to withdraw the Traders, and pre-vail upon some of the Principal Cheifs to come here as by far the Majority of the Nation are still firm in their Loyalty.

The 3d Instant Mr McIntosh from the Lower Creeks arrived here. The Indians of the Cussitah Town with some others attempted his Life, but the Coweta & Chihaw Indians, who have refused to Listen to the Rebels, guarded his House for several Days and Nights;

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they at last with much Difficulty prevailed upon him to retreat here and a party of them who are now here escorted him – I immediately sent off Messengers to order all the Traders out of every part of the Nation untill I see and converse with the Cheifs.

Mr. McIntosh wanted to have returned but the Indians who escorted him would not consent to it untill the Coussitahs are brought to their Senses.

A Report prevails that the Cherokee Villages are again Destroyed by the Rebels, that their Corn is all cut up and themselves driven to the woods, which news has a bad Effect upon the Creeks. I most ardently wish & hope that the Success of His Majesty's Arms during the present Campaign may be such as to admit of Sir William Howes extending His Operations to the Southward during the Winter and Spring: for untill the Indians [p.62] see the Kings Troops get footing in some of the Southern Provinces, they will not be convinced that it is possible for His Majesty's Arms to Conquer them; and altho they are much more attached to His Majesty's Cause, and sensible of the benefit of Trade which they enjoy; Yet the Chastisement of the Cherokees, the Apprehensions of sharing the same fate, Their Idea of our inability to Assist or protect them against the great power of the Rebels, Alarm & Confound them –

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There is no alteration in the situation of affairs respecting the Chactaws and Chickasaws, since the last time I had the Honour of writing your Lordship. I have ordered out parties of them to scout upon the banks of the Mississippi and Tamassee, and shall not fail to avail myself of their Freindly Disposition should the conduct of the Creeks render their assistance necessary. I hope I shall have the Honour & pleasure of communicating more agreable Intelligence in my next Letter

I have the Honour of being with the utmost Respect

My Lord

Your Lordship's most

Obedient & most humble Servant

John Stuart.

The Right Honble

Lord George Germain

&c &c &c His Majesty's principal Secretary of State for America

Endorsed Pensacola 6th Octr 1777. /Mr Stuart./ (No. 20.) Ent'd

/Rd 18th Febry 1778./(3. Inclosures.)

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Copy of a Letter from Mr Alexander McGillivray to John Stuart Esqr. dated Little Tallassie 21st Sept. 1777

Sir

Within these few days things has taken a turn, that we little expected especially from the Quarter it did, from the Okfushees. We all knew that Galphin has been Tampering with them sometime past, but they dissembled so much that we could never learn their real Intentions, till three days ago. I went by desire of Mr. Taitt to stop the Okfushee Chiefs from going to the Rebels, in consequence of an Invitation sent them lately from Georgia: And on my way to that Town as I drew near, met with several Parties of 4: 6 & so on. I asked them where they were going, & they would not answer me, not liking their manner when I got to the Kyalyjies (about 25 miles from home) sent off a white man Express to Mr Taitt with a Caution which happily arrived in time.

While at the Kyalyjies Just at Sun Down. Wills Friend. White Lieut. Smoke King & all the Chiefs & Warriours of the Okfushee & some other Towns, amounting to 120 men at least, arrived there on their way to the Hickory Ground determined to murder Mr Taitt Mr Cameron & Moniae the Interpreter.. When I suspecting their design. caused them to alight while I spoke to the above mentioned Chiefs & after a good deal of Talk,

sometimes Wrangling with them, Prevailed on the Chiefs to return to their homes with the young People. I got little thanks from the Latter, who said their Sport was Spoiled, & tired themselves for nothing if they had kept on they might have got plenty of Cloathing to Last the Winter via. however I did not mind much what they said of me, when I carried my Point. however the Tallapoossies were not discovered, before they reached the Hickory Ground & plundered Mr Cameron & his People: but spared the Store at Mr Taitts - both these Gentlemen were out of the way & has Continued on their Journey to your place, or Mobile. & the Indians on the Tallapoossie has continued to Plunder their Traders and among the rest Tapley who of late has behaved very Well they are now destroying his Stock Cattle & horses; I have got what goods remained of the Store in my Possession with Mr Camerons that arrived yesterday: As the Indians are in a Plundering humour I tell them I have as good a right as they & will take to my use all that I can lay my hands on, how long they may Indulge my Plea, I cant tell, but in mean time will take all advantages of it, to secure the goods.

When I met the Murderers, before they would

[p 67]

drop the hatchet they Insisted for the present mode of attaching the Rebels with white & red & the Expedition

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to be Intirely dropt & laid aside for no people should march thro their Country to attack the Settlements, that there was a passage by the sea Shore & sea room enough &c. at that time told them in order to pacify them, their requisitions should be taken into Consider-ation but a Trade I would not Promise before they deserted the Rebels at that we parted & they returned home & disappointed the Tallapoossie Gentry, who were to have shared in the Spoil - In a few days I shall have a meeting with all the Chiefs of the Wide upper Towns, Okfuskees & all, they already begin to shew some Signs of repentance I shall give them a very Strong Talk, as the Bigg Fellow Insist I shall take all on myself, he himself is timid on this Occasion, & says my Powerfull Clan will support me, I mean to try it however, & make no doubt but I will get overset Gal-phin & you shall know by the Speediest Means in what manner I succeed. Some that was most Active in the Late affair. begins now to think, & say to make up the breach they must fall on the Rebels, & Talk of sending to the Cussitahs for that Purpose as they are friends and was embarked in one Cause. This affair I shall Insist on.

The Upper Town Chiefs are now with me I talked to them to day they express the utmost [illegible] abhorence of these [illegible] disturbances & declared themselves openly against them, &c

do most of them as numbers were ready to Join Mr Tritt on the Intended expedition against the Rebels - The Second Man of the Ussitches, is now here says the whole Nation, in the Lower Towns are yet for us I cannot learn by him any thing of Mr McIntosh tho he must before this have fled for his Life with the Interpreter - I shall write you soon again: mean time will do my utmost to restore harmony & put an end to these Confusions -

I am

Sir, very respectfully

Your Most Obedient humble Servt

(Signed) Alexr McGillivray

John Stuart Esqr

N: B: Please Excuse the Hurry in which I write I can scarce turn about, for the Number of Indians that surround me - I have sent Charles Weatherford with this: your Instructions at This Juncture, will be very acceptable as they are needfull; at the return of the Express will be glad to have your Orders respecting the Lower Creeks it may be proper for me to pay them a Visit soon -

Endorsed In Mr Stuarts (N° 20) of 16th Octr 1777.

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(4-78)

Copy of a Talk from the Seminollie Indians
dated Flint River 3d September 1777

Father and Brother

We take your Talk and will hold your hand as Long as we can and we hope you will not deceive us as we are a poor Sort of People

Our Path to Saint Augustin is far out of our way and a great Distance to go as we mentioned to you before.

The Cowkeepper on the Point of Florida and his men are always about St Augustin and many of our People are always going there so Father Freind and Brother, you will depend upon our Manhood in de-fending our Land & Keeping it safe and reducing the Rebel Enemies of our Great King & Protector.

Whatever Horses or Slaves or Cattle we take we expect will be our own

From your Childern to their Father Mr Stuart.

(4-78)

Endorsed In Mr Stuarts (No 20) of 16th Oct 1778.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTI… DIVISION, L…

[p no]

(N°. 4) Whitehall 10th March 1778.

Colonel Stuart.

Sir,

I have received your Dispatches N°. 18. 19. & 20. and laid them before the King.

The Assiduity & Perseverance of the Rebel Agents to seduce the Creek Indians from their Allegiance had been so ably & zealously opposed & counteracted by your Influence & constant Attention, that I hoped they would have continued firm in their Attachment to the King, untill the Success of the Operations to the Northward would have deprived the Rebels of all Means of imposing upon their Credulity, and, by seeing a Body of victorious Troops arrive in the Southern Provinces, they would have been convinced what you had told them of the Greatness of the King's Power was true, and their own Experience had proved the Inability of the Rebels to resist His Majesty's Arms. It was, therefore, with great Concern [p 106] I found by your Dispatch N°. 20. that the Rebel Efforts had at length prevailed upon some of those Indians to renounce Our Cause, & meditate the Destruction of your Deputies, and this at a time when a Detachment from the main Army might reasonably be expected to be preparing

to embark for the Southward, with which they were to co-operate in the Reduction of those Provinces.

The Issue of the Campaign has unfortunately not been such as to justify that Expectation, and on that account I am still more apprehensive of the Defection increasing, as the Rebel Agents will undoubtedly avail themselves of a Circumstance so much in their favor to lessen your Credit, & establish their own.

I will not, however, despair of your Success with the Creeks, but will hope that as the Chactaws & Chickesaws continue stedfast, Our Friends will [p imp] still be found so numerous, as, with the Aid of your Councils & Influence, will have Strength to withstand the disaffected, and tho' you may be unable again to bring the Nation to act against the Rebels, you will find means to prevent any of their People taking part with them.

The Step you took of recalling the Traders appears to have been very judicious, and if our Cruizers are successful in preventing Supplies of Goods getting into Charles Town, the Wants of the Indians, & the Inability of the Rebels to furnish them with Supplies, will give great Efficacy

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to your Endeavours to bring them back to their Allegiance, and to yield their Assistance, if there should be Occasion to call for it.

The Designs of the Spanish Governor of New Orleans appear to be deeply laid, and to extend to the Establishment of a Connection with the Savages, which may be of the most dangerous [p. 105] Consequence; You will do well, therefore, to pay a particular Attention to that part of your District, and be extremely careful that the Officers you employ are watchful and diligent to discover, & prevent any Attempts that may be made, to draw over the Indians to the Spanish Interest, or to introduce Traders or Goods from New Orleans among them.

I am &c.ª

Geo: Germain.

Endorsed Draft / To Colonel Stuart. / Whitehall 1st March (1778) 1778. / (No. 4) / Entd

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECT

[p. 134]

Duplicate

Pensacola 29th January 1778.

My Lord

I am honoured with your Lordships letter No. 4 dated 2d April.

I am rendered extremely happy by the Honour of His Majestys gracious approbation of my Conduct in bringing about a reconcilation between the Chactaws and Creeks that both Nations might be more at Liberty to act for his service when required, and I beg leave to assure your Lordship that to merit the Royal approbation in the discharge of all parts of my duty is and shall continue to be the great object of my life.

I have the Satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship that since my last letter No. 30. dated the 6th October affairs assume a more favourable aspect in the Creek Nation. Upon the arrival of Mr. Mc. Intosh from the Lower Creeks at this place, I despatched two Traders [p. 135] in whom I could Confide with a message to the disaffected Towns, and to bring down some of their leading men; In the mean time the Chiefs of ten towns in the Upper Creeks attended by a great suite paid me a visit, their business was to vindicate their own Conduct, and to make it appear they had no hand in the disorders of the Oakfuskees, They solicited for a Trade and proposed setting out to Harrass the Settlements immediately upon their return to their Towns, but

after Confering with Governor Chester and Lieutenant Colo Stiell I declined accepting their offer, for the present from the following considerations. That the disaffected party might thereby be induced to Commit some Act of hostility upon the inhabitants of this province, whereby a reconciliation might be rendered more distant and difficult, and that at any rate reclaiming said Indians might be greatly retarded by it. It likewise occured to me that without their being conducted by proper people their desultory attacks would be indiscriminately upon friends and foes, and I am informed that a great majority of the back inhabitants of So Carolina and Georgia are of the former, who wait
[p. 129] impatiently for /an opportunity of shaking off the Yoke, I was likewise unwilling to divert them from their winters Hunting by which they would have been rendered incapable of providing Clothing for themselves and families, and would of Course have depended upon me for supplies, which would greatly accumulate the vast expence of the department, I however desired them to leave word where they might be found by messengers in Case of emergency: to all which they agreed. In answer to the talk which I delivered them, they declared their own steady attachment to the Kings cause and lamented the infatuation of their Countrymen, and proposed at their return

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECT

from hunting to hold a general meeting of their part of the Nation, when they doubted not of bringing the bad people to a sense of their duty and interest.

Immediately after the Upper Creeks left me about 600 of the lower Creeks with all the Traders in that part of the nation arrived with Mr. Holmes whom I had sent; want of provisions at home brought a much greater number than otherwise would have come, all the Chiefs of the lower Towns were amongst them and (they) were also accompanied by a deputation (p 12) from the Cussitahs one of them a man of Consid-erable weight and Chief of the Hitchita Town.

At our meeting I addressed them in the Speech of which I have the Honour of Submitting a Copy, our friendly Chiefs called upon the deputies from the disaffected towns to stand forth and answer for their Conduct; the principal came forward but was so abashed he could not utter one word, another fellow took his place and said "Their eyes were open-"ed and they were sorry for what they had done, "that they were sent to ask forgiveness and that "Traders should be permitted to go amongst them" when I repeated the necessity of their receiving the Com-missaries as a preliminary without which we could not possibly come to an understanding.

After many private Conferences with the deputies

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECT

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the principal named Hyeout offered to accompany Mr Mc. Intosh to the Nation and to protect him provided the Traders would be suffered to return with a Supply of goods, I however thought it best to dispatch him immediately to the Nation, promising that if he returned with agreeable Accounts the Commissary with the Traders should be permitted to return. As the time fixed for his return is elapsed I hourly expect him.

Abou the middle of last month Mr Mc Gillivray assistant Commissary in the Upper Creek Nation arrived here with a message from the Chiefs of the Oakfushees he brought me white beads and Tobacco Symbols of friendship "they declared their sorrow for what had happened wished to be forgiven, but if their Crime was deemed too great to be pardoned, yet they hoped the rest of the Nation would not be punished for their fault. They promised amendment, declared they had no Objection to my sending a beloved man into their Nation, but objected to Mr Tait as dangerous to them". In answer to which I invited them down to Confer with me, as the only way of Coming to a thorough understanding. Mr. Mc Gillivray returned fully persuaded that they would accept of the invitation.

Several parties of the Cowetahs are now out harrassing the frontiers of Georgia and South Carolina; and all the Seminollie Indians are firmly attached

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECT DIVISION, LI

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTION

to his Majestys interest, they consist of near one thou-
-sand gun men.

[p.132]
——— While the Lower Creeks were here I was visited by about four hundred Cherokees with their principal leaders; about the same time Seventy Chactaws arrived also, they were present at my conferences with the Creeks, and declared their firm resolution of obeying any orders I should give them. The Cherokees upbraided the Creeks with not having assisted them in their distress accord-
-ing to their engagement, Their Spirited Speeches had a good effect.

There are considerable parties of Chactaws and Chickasaws scouting upon the Mississippi, who exam-
-ine every Batteau that passes; and I can assure your Lordship that both Nations are extremely well disposed.

The Cherokees notwithstanding the very severe chas-
-tisement which they received are ready to act when-
-ever called upon, and if any expedition to the South-
-ern provinces should take place soon, I think the bulk of the Indians would join His Majestys Forces. Yet hitherto the Creeks see the friends of Government in Carolina and Georgia oppressed and the Rebels Triumphant, which makes them waver, and [p.133] doubtful of whatever I tell them.

This My Lord is the present state of Indian affairs in this district, I hope my entering into so

long a detail will not be deemed inconsequen-
-tial, I conceive it to be my duty to give your Lordship
as full information as I can.

I must beg leave to represent to your Lordship that
the Creeks have always been courted by different interests, Before
the peace of Paris by the French and Spaniards and now
by the Rebels. This Competition has taught them to be in-
-different to all parties and to over-rate their own Conse-
-quence: to this I beg leave to add that Mr Galphin the
Rebel Agent by having been employed by Sir James Wright
and Lieutenant Governor Bull as their particular Agent to trans-
-act all matters of Consequence acquired an influence which
he otherwise never could have attained; and he is now become
a formidable instrument in the hands of the Rebels, yet not-
-withstanding all their disadvantages I do not despair of carry-
[f. 154] -ing my point and rendering the Southward Indians effec-
-tually serviceable to His Majesty.

I have the Honour of being with the utmost respect.

My Lord / Your Lordships

Most obedient and Most Humble Servant

John Stuart

The Right Honble Lord George Germain
one of His Majestys Principal Secretaries of State &c

Endorsed / Pensacola 23d Janry 1778 / Mr Stuart / (Duplicate
Original not recd) Rd 9th May / Entd

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECT[illegible] DIVISION, LIB[illegible]

(N° 8)

Whitehall 15th May 1778.

Mr Stuart.

Sir,

On the 9th Inst I received the Duplicate of your Dispatch of the 23d of Jan.y, by way of Philadelphia, and am very happy to find the Creek Indians are returned to their former temper, & that no dissatisfaction prevails in any of the Nations of your Department. The arrival of a considerable reinforcement of The King's Troops at Pensacola and St Augustine must greatly serve to fix them in their allegiance; And should it be judged expedient to take possession of Georgia, their fidelity, in all future times, I/should think, might in a good degree, be depended upon.

Your zeal and attention to the djects of your Commission, has greatly served to bring the Indians into this favorable disposition; & it gives me great pleasure to have such repeated occasions of acquainting you with His Majesty's Approbation of your Conduct.

I am &c.a

Geo: Germain.

Endorsed Draf/to Mr Stuart./16th May 1778./(N.8)/Entd.

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(N° 23.) Pensacola 13th April 1778.

Since my letter to your Lordship of 5th March N° 22. I have not been honoured with any of your Lordships commands. Your Lordships letter of 11th October to Governor Chester, of which you was pleased to send me a Copy in your dispatch N°. 5. was laid by the Governor before his Council, who were unanimously of opinion that it was incumbent upon him to call an Assembly in obedience to the Kings command signified in your Lordships said letter. The Governor then communicated to His Majestys Council the intelligence which he had received from the Mississippi concerning the descent of the Rebels, and desired to have their opinions whether or not calling an Assembly ought to be postponed untill the troubles upon the Mississippi should subside, and the Council were of opinion that it would be proper to postpone calling one untill the troubles upon the Mississippi should be more settled: in which state the business remains.

In my last I had the honour of submiting to your Lordship what intelligence I had then received of the operations of the Rebels upon the Mississippi, and of the steps which I had taken in Consequence. Capt. Pearis accompanied by Mr Adam Christie a planter upon the Amit, arrived at the Netalbany River from thence

Mr Christie set out to obtain what intelligence he could, of the situation of the Enemy at Manshac, he found his own and most of the plantations upon the Amit plundered and ruined, all the buildings and a large quantity of Corn reduced to ashes: with indefatigable pains he made himself acquainted with the situation of the Rebels at Manshac, and was of opinion that they might be surprised, upon which after having consulted with Capt Pearis it was determined that a part of his Company should go upon that service under the Com-mand of Lieut Pearis Conducted by Mr Christie. This small party in all consisting of fifteen people marched accordingly; and after a march of eighteen miles bad road, entered Manshac a little before day light, having surprised and seized the rebel Centinel without noise, they proceeded immediately to force the Guard-House, which they effected without any other loss than one man wound-ed in the Arm, after having killed and desperately wounded five and brought off thirteen prisoners; the [p.46] rest of the Rebels to the number of twenty two escaped across the Iberville and took shelter in the Spanish fort, Mr. Christie and Lieut Pearis considering their party as too weak to maintain their Ground retreated with their prisoners and booty, and having joined Capt Pearis and the rest of his Company, they all imbarked for and arrived safe at this place; the prisoners were delivered

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to the Governor and are now in jail. I hope it will appear to your Lordship that Mr. Christie and Lieutenant Pearis had much merit in conducting the enterprise, and that their small party of Loyal refugees did their duty, with Courage and resolution.

Immediately after the Rebel batteaux passed by the Natchez, the inhabitants of that district deputed two persons (Mr. Mc Intosh and Mr. Collins,) to wait of the Governor Chester, and to petition for a Detachment from this Garrison for their protection; this was referred to Colonel Stiell, who thought it improper to weaken his hands here, as many works for the defence of this place are wanted in case the Enemy shall come in force to attack it. Their petition was therefore not complied with: But as my deputy Capt. Cameron was there with about twenty three men Cherokee Traders of his company. The Governor sent a deputation of Council to desire that he and his Company might be sent to the Natchez with the Chactaw Indians. But the party was so inconsiderable only eighteen of them being fit for duty, and the distance so great, that to provide them with Horses and every necessary for such a march, would have been in my opinion a fruitless Expence, as Neither Mr. Cameron or his people are acquainted with the Chactaws or their Customs, and as he and they may very soon be wanted in his proper district. Capt. Cameron by my direction

[Sp. 16 W]

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visited of the Governor in Council to acquaint him with my reasons for declining the proposal: But I offered to send him immediately if his number could be compleated to fifty men by volunteers from the garrison, But this was not thought expedient.

As the inhabitants of Mobile petitioned also for a reinforcement to their Garrison; and as Colonel Stiels reasons equally militated against this as that measure; the governor again applied to me for Capt Camerons Company, which I immediately ordered to embark upon the armed Sloop belonging to the Department, they are now doing duty at Mobile in the fort, twenty four men besides Officers.

In my last I had the honor of acquainting your Lordship that I had directed Mr Bethune Commissary in the Chactaw Nation, to march with as many of his Indians and Chiefs as he could prevail upon to follow him to the assistance of the inhabitants upon
[p.103]
the /Mississippi. I have a letter from him dated 31st March acquainting me that the Chactaws had with chearfulness agreed with his proposal, which in a general meeting was opened by two Chiefs who had lately been at New Orleans, and acquainted the Other Chiefs, that the Spanish Governor and Rebel Agent Mr Pollock had advised them to take no part in the quarrel between the white people. And they were convinced that it would be

for the advantage of their Nation to remain Neuter.. But the leading and principal Chiefs and all the young Warriours over ruled their proposal, with ex-pressions of high resentment. And concluded upon set-ing out upon their march the 3d Instant. all the Traders showed their Loyalty by offering themselves and their Servants as volunteers upon the occasion. Capt Jackson with his Company of Light Horse had joined Mr Bethune and is gone upon the Expedition. The two Chiefs who opposed the measure made their sub-mission and determined to join with all the men that they could collect.

Mr John Mc Gillivray a gentleman of fortune in-timately acquainted with the Chactaw and Chickasaw Indians their language and Customs, I considered as the fittest persons to be employed in managing the Indians of said two Nations: and being convinced that [p. 166] he would be a valuable acquisition. I used all my influence to induce him to undertake the service, and in order to insure success promised to apply to the Governor to give him the Command of a provincial Corps, to be raised by him, in which he has been very successful, and with the instructions from me, of which I submit a Copy, he marched about a week ago for the Chickasaw Nation. being supplied with presents and Amunition to a very considerable amount,

He has above one hundred men with him and expects to be greatly reinforced in the Chickasaw Nation and his way thither.

I have not received any letters from Mr. Tait or Mr. Mc. Intosh, since they returned to their respective stations in the Upper and Lower Creek Nation. But I am this day informed by a Trader thirteen days from the latter., that Mr. Mc. Intosh was very well received, and visited by the Leading chiefs of the disaffected Town the Cussitahs. That he had called a meeting of the Chiefs the result of which he was to communicate to me by express.

Several parties of our friendly Indians had been harrassing the rebel Scout, on the frontiers of Georgia during the winter. a party of whom they engaged and killed twelve without any loss on their part. They came here about fourteen days ago, and brought all their old men women and children with them. The young men who had been at War, expected payment for the loss of their Winters hunting, and brought with them an amazing croud merely for the sake of geting a little provisions. I have endeavoured to send them away well satisfied, which I find very difficult without incurring an expence which I sincerely wish to avoid if practicable; but I think in the present situation of things, they are at any expence to be gained from the Rebels — As I have in my former

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letters had the honour of informing your Lordship; The scarcity next to an absolute Famine which prevails in the Creek country, occasions a constant succession of those Indians coming here in large parties, who not only expect plenty while they remain; but considerable quantities to carry away with them. Which I hope will show the unavoidable necessity of the expence incurred by me, and account for it.

I submit to your Lordship Copies of several Letters which I have received containing intelligence of the transactions upon the Mississippi, and of Indian affairs.

I have the honour of being with the utmost and most perfect respect.

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient and

Most humble Servant.

John Stuart

The Right Honble Lord George Germain
His Majestys principal Secretary of State
for the American Department &c &c &c

Endorsed / Pensacola 13d April 1778. / Mr Stuart / (No. 23.) / Ry 24th. June. / (11 Inclosures.) / Entd

Ep. 168

[From [illegible]]

[illegible]

Pensacola 28th March 1778.

Sir

As you are appointed Lieut Colo Commandant of a regiment to be raised for the defence of this Province by His Excellency Governor Chester, you will of course act in your military capacity under the Governors orders and instructions. At the same time as the assistance of the Chactaw & Chickasaw Indians appears to be absolutely necessary for the effectual service of His Majesty in the protection and defence of the settlements at the Natchez and elsewhere upon the Mississippi, against the incursions and ravages of the Rebels. And as by your great knowledge of said Indians and particular acquaintance with their Chiefs you are every way qualified for managing and conducting them, - I therefore think it necessary for the good of His Majestys Service, to invest you with power and Authority, and I do hereby Authorise you to Collect as many of the Chactaws and Chickasaw Indians as you can with the assistance of my Deputies and Commissarys in said Nations, and to lead and employ said Indians in Annoying His Majestys Enemies, and assisting and protecting His faithful subjects, For which purpose you are hereby fully deputed and invested with my full power and Authority.

The protection and defence of the Inhabitants of

the Natchez District appears to me to be the first Object of attention but in this you will be directed by such instructions as you shall receive from His Excellency the Governor, and by your own judgment upon learning the situation of the Enemy and the posture of affairs.

For the better carrying on the Service jointly with Mr. Bethune who has before now set out for the Natchez district in consequence of orders from me, I furnish you with a Copy of my instructions to him. And I now send him further Orders to co-operate with you and give you every Aid and assistance in his power, and that you may require of him

As His Excellency the Governor points Out to you the mode of defraying the expences which shall arise in your military Department, so I must request p 78 of you to appoint some person to keep separate / and distinct Accounts of the expences which shall arise by furnishing provisions for the Indians which may accompany you, and other Contingencies in the Indian department, and upon sending me your Accounts, your bill for the same shall be duly Honoured.

Upon the whole I have the greatest confidence in your own good sense and judgment to which I must principally refer you,- I have only to add that I think Capt. Colbert ought to be immediately sent to the Chickasaw Nation to collect and lead as many of said Indians as he

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REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECT

can, under the direction and with the Assitance of John Mc Intosh Esqr. my Commissary in said Nation, to whom I write upon the Occasion, and that he will have your instructions how said Indians are to be employed.

In case the enemy should be in force to attempt penetrating through the Chactaw Nation I hope they will meet with a spirited resistance from said Indians, who with the Chickasaws in my opinion can frustrate such an attempt.

I am to inform you according to your desire that the Officers of the Corps already raised by me have [p 172] British pay, and the private Men 40f Sterling per Month, Serjants £3-p Month corporals 50f with rations

Orders are herewith sent to Charles Stuart Esqr to furnish you with such proportion of presents as you may judge necessary, and if the quantity of Amunition now sent be insufficient, I will thankfully replace whatever the Gentle-men in trade will lend upon this Occasion.

I have no further to add at present but to request of you to give me punctual and early intelli-gence of every material Occurrence by expresses hired for that purpose, so wishing you all success

I remain

Sir

Your most Obt Humb Servt

Lieut Colo John Mc Gillivray.

Endorsed Pensacola 28th March 1778. / Copy of a letter from the Superintendant to / Lieut Colo Mc Gillivray / In Mr Stuart's (No. 23) / of 13th April 1778. / (1.)

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[p. 173]

Copy

Point Coupee March 1st 1778

Dear Campbell

You have no doubt heared of the Descent of the Americans & that they have carried every thing before them with Fire & Sword, by what I can learn, Mr Willing left Philadelphia with 27 Men, and that he hath been reinforced on the Rivers to the number of a hundred or thereabouts; the Natchez declared for the United States almost to a man. Harry Stuarts House has been Plundered and he himself narrowly escaped being taken at Manshac. The Vessel at Manshac has been taken by surprise. Negroes and every thing else belonging to Cummins have been taken, but Bowker is spared; the half of Castles Negroes are seized as the property of Smith.- The House of Walker and Alexander are burned to the ground; and as many of their Negroes as could be catched are in their Possession.- They are now gone down towards Baton Rouge. We understand from the French People, that their intention is to plunder & Destroy all the way down to Manshac those whom they do not consider as their Friends.- They have got a black list containing the Names of persons who are to be destroyed, I have learned the houses of many: Alexander, Dauber, Robt Ross, Taylor, Poupet, Williams & in short all Loyalists & Scotchmen.- They ought to be now at Poupets & his House

will probably be burned; his Negroes have been remov-
-ed to a place of safty. After leaving Manchac the
Amit & Lakes are their next Objects, they came to Or-
-leans by the [7] Bay on St Johns where they repeet to sell
their booty after which they return to the River.

This is the Place they have given out, tho'
it may not be their real intentions. — I have for-
-tunately fallen in with Mr Alexander here, who
had he been catched, was to have been cut into a
hundred pieces; so they declared at the Fort here.

We want your advice what is best to be
done in the Present Emergencies, perhaps you can
procure permission for us from the Governor to set-
-tle with our Negroes here for a season, I believe
we shall save the greatest part of them. We have
received much Friendship & hospitality, from the People
here. — Mr Willings Party is considered by every
body here as a band of Robbers & Plunderers. Their
chief aim is seizing Negroes and other Property without
enquireing your principals whether for or against them.

Three Companys of men upon the River would
have prevented all this & I do not see what is
to prevent their being subdued even yet. — Alexr
Ross will be flead alive if they catch him. &
I'm told that Dauber's principal Crime is hav-
-ing harboured him in his House at Baton Rouge

and a Supposition that they were connected to-
-gether in the Plantation

Mr Donald Jnr Campbell

Endorsed / Point Coupee 1 Mar. 1778 / Copy of a let- [Ep. 1763]
-ter from _____ to / Mr Donl Campbell / In
Mr Stuarts (N° 23) / of 13th April 1778. / (2)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTION

Copy

Stoney District to wit

Whereas on Thursday Evening the 4th Inst Capt. Willing in the Service of the united States of America arrived with a Detachment of men under his command at the Watery Landing and the next morning early sent out several Parties, who at most at one & the same time made the Inhabitants Prisoners at War on their Paroles, and having hoisted the Colours of the said united States and taken possession of the Country in their name, The Inhabitants in this Distress and unprotected State fearing a Confiscation of their property thought it necessary to wait on the said Capt. Willing, to propose terms of Accomodation which he readyly agreeing thereto the said Inhabitants unanamously Delegated the four following Gentlemen to treat for them and make the best Terms possibly they could

Wm. Thorn Esqr.
Saml. Wells Planter
Charles Pinckney Esqr.
Major Luke Collins

And as we the Delegates have obtained leave from the People to call in any persons to our assistance we may think proper, we have desired the following Gentlemen

Isaac Johnson Esqr.
Richd. Ellis Esqr.
Joseph Thomson Planter

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We the Delegates of the People & our Associates do propose the following Terms to Capt.n James Willing.

1.stly That we will not in any wise take up Arms against the united States of America or aid abet / or in any wise give assistance to the Enemies of the said States. agd

2.dly That our persons Slaves and other Property of what kind soever shall remain safe & unmolested during our neutrality. agd

3.rdly That a List of the names of the Slaves of the Inhabitants shall on Honour be given in. agd

4.thly That Capt.n Willing shall Engage to send a Flag of Truce to the Chactaw Indians to give out a talk with a Belt, to prevent the Indians falling on the Defenceless Inhabitants. agd

5.thly That Capt.n Willing having in his possession as a Prisoner one Robt Welsh, in whose possession was found a order from Farquhar Bethune Esqr Commissary for the Chactaw Nation to obstruct, Harrass, distress & oppose any Party of Americans coming down the River, & it appearing to the Inhabitants of this District that the Life of the said Robt Welsh was in danger they Petitioned the said Captn Willing on his behalf, who immediately set him at Liberty, and shall Engage to send him with a Flag into the Chactaw Nation, he having a great Interest with them,

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to Incline them to peace. agd

6thly That the Delegates & their Associates shall have leave to send a Copy of these Articles to Governor Chester at Pensacola accompanied with a letter requesting his Excellency to take such Steps as shall prevent the Indians falling on the Inhabitants. agd

7thly That the Delegates & their associates do in & on behalf of the People take the following Oath. That they will not take up Arms or [illegible] Act to the Prejudice of the united States nor in word or Deed, Except in the foregoing Article, treat with Enemies, but observe a Strict Neutrality. agd

8thly That the Delegates shall appoint one of their own body to accompany the said Captain Willing to New Orleans. agreed.

Natchez District West Florida
Signed this 21st day of February 1778.

Associates	Delegates
Isaac Johnson	Wm Hiorn
Richd Ellis	Saml Wells
Joseph Thomson	Chas Percy
	Luke Collins

Agreed to in the fullest Extent, in behalf of the United States of America (all Publick Officers of the Crown of Great Britain who have properly in this District Excepted) those who have held Commissions

and have signed the Oath of Neutrality borne with-
-in the above Articles.

Jnº Willing

NB The Property of all British Subjects who are not Residents in this District also excepted they being Enemies of the said States

[41.No]

Endorsed / Copy of the Capitulation / of the inhabi-
-tants of the / Natchez district with the rebel com-
-mandant / In Mr Stuarts (Nº23) / of 13th April 1778. (3)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTI[illegible]ON, LIBRA[illegible]

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECT

[p. 101]

Copy.

Dear Sir

You must long before this heared of the Party of Americans, that is come down the River we were here uncertain of their number's intill two days ago, their Friends gave out that there was at least 2000 Men, as those stories may be carried to you Mr Foss Jointly with me have employed the Bearer to whome we promised 30 Dollars.

The Party is commanded by a Mr Willing, and a Lieut Mc Intyre they left Fort Nill the begin-ing of January last being then only 35 Men but re-cruited as they came down and before they got to Natchie was above 100; the People there capitulated a Copy you have inclosed and many joined them, and some they pressed finding themselves growing strong they did not treat the Inhabitants below with the same Len-ity for they took all the Negroes and property of those who they knew to be friends to Government. and have now in this Town at least 150 or 200 Negroes, Governor Chesters amongst the number. Eighteen Men took the Ship at Manshac, and then went to your Brothers but he luckily made his escape to the Spanish Fort where he is now in safety tho' they offered 500 Dollars for his head to the Corporall which he refused, this small party was magnified in a written Account sent by a

Mr Levingston to Mr. Jones from 18 to 180 Riffle men which he said he saw himself at Mr Carpenters, this tho' under Mr Levingstons hand we now know to be false, Mr Mc. Intyre is now here and has been down at the Rivers Mouth where he took a Brigt of mine Captain Willing is bringing down the ship, their whole number does not exceed 200 men and on the least resistance most of those will disperse nor do they by their own Account expect any reinforcement sooner than May if then if the Atlanta, will come into the River, she will save the Vessell yet. The Spanish Governor to do him Justice has given a friendly protection to all those that came to the Spanish Teritorys

I am Dear Sir

Your Most Humble Servt

Signed Dond Campbell

Orleans

March 5th 1778

Endorsed / New Orleans 5d. March 1778 / Copy of a letter from / Mr. Donald Campbell to the Superintendant. / In Mr. Stuarts (No 23) / of 13d. April 1778. / (4.)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECT

[p. 194]

Copy

New Orleans March 5th 1778

Dear Sir.

I did myself the honor to write you some time ago from this Place, to which I beg your reference. The following intelligence is of so much importance, that I have thought it my duty to send it to you by express in conjunction with Mr Campbell, least you have not yet had a True account of the matter. The 19th of Febr a Party of Americans supposed to be about two hundred arrived at the Natchez under the Command of a Mr Willing, they seized the Inhabitants who being without protection were obliged to Capitulate a Copy of the Capitulation will be hereunto sent you. The Inhabitants Lower down the River have not been so fortunate they have seized & Destroyed all of their property that they could find, & obliged them to fly for Protection to the Spaniards. Your Brother had a very narrow escape being obliged to fly in his Shirt to the Spanish Fort at Manshac where he is now very safe. They offered a Considerable reward for him, some say a thousand dollars, but altho' the Commanding (Officer) there was only a Corporal he behaved nobly and told them since he was under the Protection of the Spanish Flag, he wou'd defend him with his last drop of Blood, The Governor has approv'd much of his Conduct in this affair, & is determined to promote him. They have cleared

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all the English side of the River of its Inhabitants, and nothing to be seen but destruction, & Desolation. By mere Accident I escaped with my few Negroes, but shall Lose every thing else a Party has been sent after me some Days, who will I suppose [p. 863] play the same game on the Lakes, that they have done on the Mississippi. so that this flourishing Province may be said to be abandn'd for want of Protection, It's truly shocking to behold so many worthy people who have been ruined by a Banditti for no other Crime than their Loyalty. They were promised protection in your Province and they fled to it, but I cannot help saying they have been most shamefully neglected. but I am persuaded you & Colo Dickson will exert yourselves on this particular Occasion to prevent these Robbers escaping with impunity.

One or two hundred Regulars with as many Indians, would in my opinion be very sufficient to give a very good account of them. They give out, & it is pretty generally believed, that about Five thousand will be down in the Spring (May) & that they are determined to have Pensacola. so that it will be necessary to have a pretty strong Force on the Mississippi; and well Fortifyed.

They have taken several Vessells in the River, and those that escaped are under the Protection of

the Governor here, who I believe feels on this Occasion for the Unhappy English.

I have a few Negroes here, & I wish to have your good Advice what to do with them. I know not what to do, I am realy in a very unhappy & Disagreable Situation.

The hurry I am in will I hope apologize for the inaccuracy of this scrawl. In the the mean time I beg leave to assure you that

I am with much Regard.

Dear Sir

your very humble Sert

Alexr. Ross

[p.107]

The Bearer knows not the nature of the Business he is sent upon, he is made to understand it is altogether on Mercantile Matters, to which you will please also to attend

John Stuart Esqr.

Endorsed New Orleans 5th March 1778. Copy of a letter [p.108] from /Alexander Ross Esqr. to the Superintendant/ In Mr. Stuart's (N° 28) /of 15th April 1778./ (5.)

Copy [p. 109]

New Orleans 8th March 1778.

Sir

I embrace this opportunity of informing you I arrived here yesterday, where I found every thing in the greatest Confusion many of our Planters totally ruin'd by the Negroes being taken by the Rebels, they have sent down here about 60, and many others on board the Ship which is aground about three Miles below Manchac. As soon as they can get her off they propose bringing her to this Town and I suppose sell her with the Negroes and Property they have taken from Manchac and from different Plantations on the River &c. they are still asearching for Negroes and other Plunder they can meet with, the Govern.rs Negroes & Lovingston's are said all to be taken by Mr. Elliott who has joined Willing at Manchac.

It is thought here that the Spanish Governor will suffer all property that is brought here to be sold at Publick Vendue, Mr. Pollock has declared himself Agent for the Congress. I have the Pleasure to inform you that Mr. Henry Stuart is very well at the Spanish Fort at Manchac, The number of Rebels is not above two hundred and them divided in three divisions about Forty on board the Ship, and about Fifty in this Town, the remainder about 9 Leagues below this Town where they have taken a Brigt belonging

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTI[redacted]ON, L[redacted]

to Mr Jn° Campble and are bringing her up to this Town. I waited on the Governor yesterday but did not let him know I was any ways concerned in the
[p. 190] ship, nor / did I deliver the Governors Letters. The Governor asked me many questions whether we had hear'd any thing of this at Pensacola, I told him we did but thought nothing of it, as we only thought it a small Robing party, and that if they offered to molest any persons property at Manchac that they would meet with Protection from his Fort as it was under his Guns; he answered he had nothing to do with it as it was on our Land

As Mr Campbell has wrote you fully I refer you to his Letter which you may rely on as fact. Should I learn any thing worthy of your notice shall take the Liberty of Informing you

I am Sir your

Most Obeient humble Servant

Signed — Wm Wilton

To the Honble John Stuart Esqr.

[p. 191] Endorsed New Orleans 8th March 1778. / Copy of a Letter from / Mr William Wilton to the / Superintendant / In Mr Stuart's (N° 23) of / 13th April 1778. / (6.)

Cp. 1971

Pensacola 19th March 1778.

Mons: Rabico from Fort St Vincent (called by the French Auxperts) one of His Britannic Majestys subjects was coming down the Mississippi in his Batteau loaded with peltry to the value of ten or twelve thousand dollars, on his way down the river he was informed that some Rebel batteaux had passed upon which he put into the Arcanzas in order to apply to Mons: de Villiard the Spanish Commandant for a passport to New Orleans. which being refused him he set off to make the best of his way there, But was pursued by one Poultney who collected a number of Hunters and armed a Batteau for that purpose. By whom he was taken and carried back to the mouth of the Arcanza river. Where Mons: de Villiard the Commandant above mentioned put a Corporals command on board of his Batteau, and carried him and his Batteau to the Natchez landing, and there delivered both to James Willing the Rebel Commandant. This account is given by Mr Alexander Machintosh who saw the Batteau delivered to Willing, from whom he had the above information of the Batteaus being sent him by the Spanish Commandant, He also had a confirmation of the same from two persons who had been pressed by Poultney to assist him in taking the said Batteau

Mr Mc Intosh has made oath of the above intelligence before the Governor

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTION OF

Cp. 1961

Endorsed ' Mr Alexander McIntoshes / information of the seizure / of Mons.r Rabicos Batteau / by the Spanish Com.- mandant / In Mr. Stuart's (N 28) / of 13th April 1772 / (7.)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTI

Ap. 1771

Copy

Dear Sir

I wrote you by express twelve days ago, the return of which express I impatiently wait for: the Situation of matters are very little altered since, only Mr. Christie has surprised the Party at Manchac, has taken, Killed or Wounded 16 out of 35 that was there, but they having soon a reinforcement he prudently retired and they have proceeded up the River to plunder whatever was left unplundered before, and carrie away some Negroes that had not got over to the Spanish side, What could Induce your Governor to send so few men had 200 been sent at first all would be over, and it would be only the first loss but now from the Quantity of Plunder many has and more will be induced to Join them, they are now about 200 and had Mr Christie but 50 Men and a few Indians he would have prevented their going past Manchac, nothing but certain ruin attend every Person in this River and they have distroyed all the provisions on the Amitt and now talk of doing the same to every place along the Lakes and Mobile Bay, and then about Pensacola. Your Brother is safe here, he arrived last night nothing Material has been done by the Man of War, some of the

Council ought to be sent, I am afraid he is too warm, and all the Property which is very consider-able is now on the Spanish Side and its but doing Don Galves the Justice due to him to say he has given protection to every person who deserved it and should Capt.n Ferguson quarrel with him every person here is ruined / without redemption, wishing you health & happiness

I am

Dear Sir

Your Most Humb.l Ser.t

Signed ...

Don.d Campbell

New Orleans

March 20th 1778.

I request my letters may not be seen so as to send Copys back for some letters which Col.l Hutchins wrote your Governor last year Copys were sent to Congress and he is now in Custody and all his Negroes taken from him for that reason, of this Mr. Willing made no secrite.

The Honble John Stuart Esq.r

[p.200]

Endorsed ✓ New Orleans 20.th March 1778. / Copy of a letter from / Mr. Donald Campbell to the / Superintendant / In Mr. Stuart's (N.o 23) / of 13.th April 1778. / (.8)

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[p. 201]

Mobile 7th March 1778.

Sir

Yesterday I had a meeting of all the Head-men of the Chactaws that had been with you and some others, in all about 200 - when I explained your letter to them in its fullest latitude, and put them in mind of the many promises that they had given you and Self of their service if wanted, which met with general applause - and each Chief spoke upon the Occasion in a manly manner, the substance of which was (as time will not allow me to be particular) that they would now perform their promise, and convince you that what you had hitherto given them and told them should not be thrown away, in a word their Talk was the best and most manly I ever heard, the Speakers were Capt Humra small medal Chief of Nashubawaya, Tashka Talapo, Great Medal, The Irish-man and Franchy Oumastabi

This day I dispatch them giving presents to the party they left behind, which you will see by the number must be considerable but I thought it necessary not to damp their ardor.

[p. 202]

I am geting Mr Bethune fitted out as fast as Circumstances will admit, and I am in hopes of geting him some horses, and as I am of opinion it will be necessary that the Nation be well supplied

with Amunition, I have some thoughts of geting some sent by water to the nearest landing if you ap-
-prove of it, as reinforcements may be sent to such partys as are now going out, if required, I shall give Bethune directions that immediately upon his arrival in the Nation, he sends off a deputy from the six towns upper and lower partys, to the Chickesaws to endeavour to stimulate them, and amunition must be sent there. A half-breed of that Nation was present yesterday at the meeting, and whom I desired to let his people know what he had heard and seen.

I am

Sir

Your most obt Humbl Servant

Signed / Charles Stuart

Honble John Stuart Esq

[p.203]

Endorsed Extract of a letter from / Charles Stuart Esq to the / Superintendant / Mobile 7th March 1778 / In Mr. Stuart's (N°23) / of 13th April 1778. / (9.)

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[p.2 of 3]

Copy

Mobile 19th March 1778.

Sir

I was favoured with your letters of 12th & 14th Inst & have to acquaint you that Mr Bethune left this Place the 13th his horses went the 10th he was to get home as fast as possible & would be there some Days before the headmen who set out some days before him. I will furnish you soon with a list of what articles he carried with him which were all borrowed & given out of my Store.

I am very glad your Sloop is coming here as I am entirely out of Stores & this Place constantly full of Indians, the Creeks are still here and I do not know when they will go away.

I believe I shall get what Ammunition may be wanted, here for the Chickasaws & Chactaws which with the Arms & other heavy goods shall be sent as you Direct, Mr. McGillivray is not yet come from his Plantation but is hourly expected with his Boat & Mr. Colbert went (before I received your letters) with Mr Swanson and a few more Voluntiers on a party down this Bay to assist two Armed Sloops that lay at Mobile Point upon an information of a Privateer's being in the Bay, & is not yet return'd, nor have we any account of them, but several Guns have been heard. As soon as he returns I will dispatch him.

Your Ideas relative to the Trade are just & I did not mean to prohibit it unless judged neces-sary. As the express is just setting off, time will not permit me to be as explicit /as I would be, but be assured every thing, in my power shall be done for His Majesty's Interest & to carry your instructions in-to execution.

Immediately, upon receipt of your informa-tion with respect to the rebel Deputation, I sent an able Indian Express to Bethune at same time gave him (the Indian) a Letter to the Traders in the Six Towns in general requesting their assistance lest any such Persons appeared amongst them and to ap-prehend every Person whom they did not know which I dare say will have a good Effect. I directed Mr Bethune to get the Indians ready as soon as possible, but you know how they move — Shou'd Mr Alexr McIntosh return this way he will be of great service to Mr Bethune —

We have letters here from Orleans of the 10 & 11 inst from D: Campbell who has also wrote you, so that you are more fully informid by that than time will allow me to do.

I am Sir

Your most Obedt humble Servt

signed Ch: Stuart

[F]

I have now here 123 flats with Capt[n] Houma of
[illegible] & a party of Chickasaws
Honble Jn[o] Stuart Esqr

(p.209)
Endorsed / Mobile 19[th] March 1778 / Copy of a Letter
from / Charles Stuart Esqr to the / Superintendant. / In
Lt[r] Stuarts (N[o] 23) of / 13[th] April 1778. / (10)

[p.109]

Copy

Mobile 23d March 1798

Sir

This goes by an express which Mr John McGillis
may sends you in consequence of your letter to him
of the 13 Inst he will inform you in what readyness he has his Boat here which only waits for
your Orders.

Last night an Indian fellow came in here with the following intelligence, viz: That he & his Son in Law out a hunting some time ago, that the Son in Law went to the Mississippi to hunt for Buffloe & he having had much went after him to get some of the Meat & met the Son in Law returning home who als turned him back, telling him that he saw a great number of boats full of men going down the river with trunks floating, that they were so numerous as to cover the River for 3 Leagues that upon their coming into the Nation they met a man (whom this Indian calls Allemand) who told them the same story, and further that 4 Men had come from Natchez to acquaint Mr Bethune with the same, That not finding him at home 2 of them had gone back & 2 had staid to see Bethune, & that there were Indians on the different paths to meet him, and that he is sure they will be here soon with letters. The Indian also gives to understand that one of the white men who

came from Natchez is called Allen, supposed to be me Charles Allen, well known in this Town.

Shou'd this intelligence prove true (altho' its well known that red men will exaggerate) it may occasion [p 2v0]
an alteration in the Plan you may have taken, as I suppose the Indians will be wanted this way at all events Arms & Ammunition must be sent them.

I fear Jn° McIntosh has fallen into their hands as many of the hunters who joined Willing must have known where he was and his silence in some measure gives reason to think so. but I shall know in a few days as some Chickasaw Traders are expected.

Having upon the foregoing intelligence consulted with Mr McGillivray we are of opinion (as a favourable opportunity now offers of sending up Ammunition as far as Bashets, he being now here & having hands sufficient,) that it will at all events be proper to send up as much Ammunition that far, as can conveniently be had; also flints, as it will greatly tend to encourage the Indians seeing so much Ammunition at hand, They may be got to fetch it from there, but the Article of Provisions is what appears to me the most difficult to provide, it must if they have it, be bought from themselves, made into Flour, & Horses furnished to carry it. as it will never answer to load them with it, as they would constantly be Dropping of when tired. Powers must

be given to the Officers who go with them to purchase provisions if to be had, Boats, Horses &c &c.

Colbert only waits for a confirmation of some news to set out as it would be improper to set out without it.

Expresses shou'd be established between Pensacola and this place, & Government must defray the expence of the same (if found necessary,) between this place and Orleans, [p.210] shou'd and body of men mean to come this way, we must greatly depend on information, so as to be able to get Indians down.

The pease that were sent here, are very bad as I am told, & they were shiped without a Bill of Lading or any notice given to Wm McGillivray, so that they lay on the wharf in bad weather and no one would claim [illegible] as the Capta did not come here to tell who they belonged to, he having ran aground in the Bay was forced to land them to lighten his Vessel. I do not know how the Indians will like them. but I know corn is what they like best and bread.

I am Sir / your most Obedt Servt

(Signed) Joh: Stuart

Gentle John Stuart Esqr

Endorsed ✓ Mobile 23d March 1778. / Copy of a letter [p.212] from / Charles Stuart Esqr. to the / Superintendant / In Mr Stuart's (N°23) of 13th April 1778. / (11) / dr.

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(N°. 9.) Whitehall 1st July 1778 [p. 217]

Colonel Stuart

Sir,

On the 24th of last Month I received your Dispatch N°. 23 but N°. 22 to which you refer has not come to hand

I confess Sir it was with equal Surprize and Concern I read the Account contained in this Dispatch, and in those I received at the same time from Governor Chester, of the depre-dations committed upon the side of the Missis-sippi by so considerable a body of the Rebels from Fort Pitt.

It was surely a most unpardonable Neg-ligence in the Officers you had appointed to watch their motions upon that River, not only to have been without Intelligence of their coming, but to have no Parties of Indians at the Landing Places (p. 218) or even with themselves at the Post you had or-dered them to; for I cannot conceive it possible that after so large an Expence incurred in the Indian Department, Parties could not have been en-gaged to succeed each other in keeping a constant watch upon the Banks of the River, to give time-ly Notice of the approach of the Enemy, and of sufficient Strength to defeat a much more formidable

Detachment than that which has been suffered to do so much Mischief.

It was some Consolation however to me to find that a Check had been given to their Depredations by the spirited Enterprize of a few Loyal Subjects conducted by Mr. Christie and Lieut. Pears, [p. 219] and I shall hope that the Expedition Mr. McGillivray has undertaken will be attended with all the Success expected from it. Should he arrive in time to prevent Reinforcements coming down, and seize the Booty they may be sending up, the Party will probably disperse and the Inhabitants be relieved from their Apprehensions of further in-jury, for as a considerable Body of the King's Troops are ordered to West Florida, their Arrival will serve to con-firm the Indians in our Interest and incite them to de-fend their Country, & at the same time con-vince the Rebels that all their Attempts to establish themselves upon the Mississippi will only end in their own Destruction.

[p. 220] I The Lords of the Treasury have it under Consideration to Order you a fur-ther Supply of Presents and Provisions for the Indians, but I must not conceal from you that their Lordships express some Un-easiness at finding the expence of your

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Department so greatly increased of late.

I am &c.ª

Geo: Germain

[p.282]

Endorsed Drat to Coll.º Stuart. / 1st July 1778 /

(N.º 9.) / Ent.d

[p. 223]

Duplicate N 22. Pensacola March 5th 1778

My Lord

Since my Letter to your Lordship N° 21. dated the 23d January last I am Honoured with your Dispatches N: 5 & 6, the former Containing extracts of Letters from Lieutenant Governor Hamilton of Detroit as also Copy of your Lordships Letter to Governor Chester of the 11th: October, the Latter covering His Majestys Commission appointing me Colonel of the several Nations of Indians within the District.

His Majestys most Gracious and repeated approbation of my Conduct in the Management of the Important Department intrusted to me as it does me the greatest Honour it also gives me inexpressible pleasure. I beg leave again to repeat to your Lordship that to Merit a Continuation of the Royal approbation will be the grand object of my Life

The Cherokee Indians of whose arrival here I acquainted your Lordship in my last Letter have just left me in Order to return to their Villages, and I have the Satisfaction of repeating to your Lordship that [p. 224] they are most firmly attached to His Majesty. The Scarcity of Provisions and their other Disasters at home induced them to stay here so long, which altho it was attended with a very Considerable expence will not I hope be deemed by your Lordship unnecessary. I

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thought it incumbent upon me to be very attentive to them as well in gratitude to their Services and Suf-
-ferings as for an example to the other Indian Tribes, they will arrive at their Villages in time to plant a little Corn for the ensuing year, after which they will be ready to perform any Services which may be re-
-quired of them. I did not fail to communicate to them and shall to all the other Tribes the Attack upon the frontiers of Virginia by Lieut: Governor Hamiltons In-
-dians which I dare say will Annimate them to ex-
-ert their utmost for His Majestys interest.

A party of the Cowetahs who had been out Harrassing the frontiers of Georgia attacked a party of the Rebel Rangers successfully and killed three of them upon which they returned to their Villages, this has afforded a plausable pretext to the Rebels for not supplying the Indians with Goods as they promised which in fact has proceeded from inability. This failure on their part and my having stoped the Trade to all parts of the Nation have brought the Indians of the Disaffected party to a sence of their Error, Hycout the Deputy from the Rebel Towns who I had the Honour of mentioning to your Lordship in my
[p-228] last Letter is returned again from the Nation and with him all the Chiefs of the Lower Towns attached to that Interest (except the Cussitahs,) they have in

the most pressing Manner solicited me to let Wm McIntosh my Commissary return with them to their Towns under the strongest assurances and engagements to protect him at the Risk of their Lives. Among their Chiefs is the Head Warrior of the Appalachicolas which is considered as the Mother & Governing Town of the whole Nation, he has been so earnest in his solicitations and I am so thoroughly convinced of his Power to protect Mr McIntosh that he sets out in a few days accompanied by the Traders for the Lower Towns.—

The example of the Lower Towns has had such an effect upon the upper Creeks, that several of their Chiefs who are now here insist upon recon-ducting Mr Taitt my Deputy back to his Station, this they so earnestly solicited that upon the Occas-ion they shed many Tears. I have deferred giving them a final answer for some days altho I believe we shall terminate this business to our mutual Satisfaction.

This my Lord is the present state of the Creek Nation; and the arrival of all the Ships with Indian Goods from London at St Augustine as well as at this place, and the Success of His Majestys business ff Charles Town Barr, render it improbable that the Rebels will have it in [p. 226] their power to send in a Sufficient supply of Goods to any of the Indian Nations:

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yet Mr Ogalphin the Rebel Agent still retains a party in the Oakfushees and Cussitah Towns where some of their Commissarys and Traders are Protected, but I expect that will not long be the case.

Some of the principal great and small Medal Chiefs of the Chactaws have just left me, this Nation is extreemly well attached and much devoted to the Kings Interest. Whilst they were here Mr Bethune my Commissary received the letter a Copy of which I have the Honour to submit to your Lordship, the Intelligence contained in it I immediately communicated to Governor Chester, I am sorry to say that it did not prove entirely groundless, for on the 1st Instant Mr Walters, a young Gentleman concerned in Trade arrived here in five days from Manchac, on the Mississippi by whom we were informed that two Rebel Batteaux under the direction of a Mr Willing came down the Mississippi so rapidly that they reached the Settlements without being discovered.

The Chactaws as mentioned in Mr Perrys Letter had returned to their Villages and were to be replaced by a fresh party consisting of about fifty Mrs Perry and Welsh their Conducters remained at their Station at the House of a Mr Wathins about 30 Leagues above Natchez, a man extremly well affected to Government and upon the Night of the 18th Ultimate they were

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Unfortunately surprised and made Prisoners together with two others employed along with them. On the 19th in the Morning the rest of the Party arrived at Mr Watkins's House consisting in the whole of about One hundred men, at Natchez they seized several Persons well affected to Government, from thence they proceeded down the River seizing & Plundering in their way all those whom they understood to be friends to Government, they arrived the 24th Ultimate at Manchac in the Morning, so rapid was their Descent that they surprised the Village and made the Inhabitants Prisoners before they had any information of their approach. My Deputy Mr Henry Stuart was then there with a few Indians on their way to this Place, the first object of the Rebels was to seize a Ship then Laying at the Bank (Loading for London) with Sixteen Guns and a number of Swivles, which they effected without the least opposition. Their next Object was to apprehend Mr Stuart of which they happily failed, for he found means of making his Escape, and is said to have taken refuge in the Spanish Fort where he is protected. But of this I expect a very particular Acct from himself by the first opportunity.

The Rebels fell down the River with their Prize to New Orleans, Governor Chester will inform your Lordship of the steps he has taken in consequence of this

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[p.226]

intelligence; and I have the Honour / of submitting to your Lordship the orders which I sent to Mr Charles Stuart my Deputy and Mr. Bethune my Commissary in the Chactaw Nation, I do not doubt but every step will be taken by them to recover the Settlements upon the Mississippi.

The Party of Rebels who are come down give out that they are to be followed by a Body of Two Thousand in May next.

Captn. Pearis of the Loyal Refugees with Twenty five Men which is as many of his Company as are at Present fit for Service, is embarked to give what assistance he can to the Settlers upon the Amit, who have abandoned their Plantations and are retired to the Natalbani, and upon his arrival there I hope he will be joined by such a body of Chactaws as will enable him to recover Manshac, for further particulars with respect to this invasion I beg leave to refer your Lordship to Governor Chester. — Upon the whole I think it rather to be lamented that the Inhabitants in the Mississippi District have not been formed into a Militia, under the Direction of such persons as could be confided in

In Consequence of Orders to me from His Excellency General Sir William Howe respecting the Rum Trade to the Indian Nations, I applied to Governor

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Chester to assist me to put some Check to it, who with the Advice of His Majesty's Council issued the Proclamation of which I have the Honour of Submitting a Copy. The Inhabitants of this Province (Ep. 209) have hitherto paid very little attention to it; but your Lordships Letter to him of the 11th. October last will enable him to invest me with such Powers as will effectualy remedy the evil. Many Salutary Provisions are wanting in this Province which by calling an Assembly at this time may be obtained.

I beg leave to assure your Lordship that no attention or exertion in my power shall be wanting totally to Defeat the present invasion of the Rebels upon the Mississippi; and to forward His Majestys interest in every part of my Department.

I have the Honour to be with the utmost and most Perfect respect

My Lord

Your Lordships most

Obedient & most Humble Servant

John Stuart

The Right Honorable Lord George
Germain His Majestys Principal Secretary
of State for the American Department. Pen Pen

Endorsed Pensacola 5th March 1778./ Mr. Stuart./ (No. 22)/ Rd 6th July/ (Ep 230)
(Dup - Orig. not recd_/ (4 Inclosures.) / Entd

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Copy

Chactaw Nation February 4th 1778 [illegible]

Sir

Yesterday arrived here from the Mississippi Mr. Hardey Perry and John ABshear (Ashbaring) by agreement of Mr. Welsh & the Indians to acquaint you of what we have heard since our last Letters to you which we thought could not be so well done as by one of ourselves coming.

We have had intelligence by a Frenchman who run away from the Americans to Orleans, and came up the River, and told us that there was 42 Battoes with 65 Men each ready to come down last Fall but being so leat got Frozen up this news he had from the Governor of Orleans waiting man.

We likewise had news from a French hunting boat that come down the river, which confirms the above, who says that he had a letter from one Mr Burns who he was acquainted with, that they will certainly be down this Spring, and we likewise look upon it that it is needless to Keep such a small party of Men at that Place as the River is so wide that small Arms can be of no detriment to them, but we always when we see a boat send a Party over to the opposite side, but never could see any thing but Trading boats.

The Indians wants to come in very much

as they say they have stayed above their time, as it was with a great deal of persuasion that I got them to agree to stay for 20 Days Longer, 'till such time as I went back to them with news from you
[p.232]
for them to come in. /Captain Blewmart is gone past in a boat for the Nation of Cusar Indians, to see and bring them over to the English side, who is at War with the Spaniards & French, and has killed 11 of the Spaniards & French who was a hunting.

There is no Quantity of Ammnition gone up this River since we have been here only one Newsman who went past and we examined him who told us he had no more than 150 Lb weight, we, afterwards was informed by one of his hands that he had about 600 lb made up in Wine and Brandy Kegs, what his intentions was we cannot tell, but we heared he was agoing to the Quassas as Trading with it, The Americans their Chance is very great, as they have no Occasion to come for any thing they want as they can get what supplys they want by the Trading boats which is going up daily, and as for one Battoe coming down I dont think they will venture as they cannot but hear that we are here laying in wait for them: We likewise understand that the Governor of Orleans has rec'd a Letter from the Americans, with a Confirmation

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of the aforesaid news.

The Indians that is there now are willing to go again only that they wants to come in now as they hear of some of their relations being dead. no more at Present but shall remain here 'till such time as I hear from you no more at present but remain

Sir

Your most humble Servand
Signed . . . Hardey Perry

To Mr. Ferqr Bethune

Endorsed Chactaw Nation 4th Febry 1778 / Copy of a [p. 292] letter from / Hardy perry / to / Farquhar Bethune Esqr / In Mr Stuarts (No 22) of / 5th March 1778. (1.)

[illegible] Letter Book

[p.236]

Pensacola March 2d. 1779

Sir.

This will be delivered to you by Mr. Bethune who I dispatch to his post with the utmost expedition to repair to the banks of the Mississippi with all the Indians of the Western party he can prevail upon to accompany him as well as all the Traders and their Hirelings, and any other white men he can raise.

He will acquaint you that the reason of giving these directions is intelligence which I have just received confirming what I had by you, that a body of Rebels were actually arrived at the Mississippi whose vanguard consisting of about 30 had actually surpris'd Manchac and seized Mr. Willtons Ship with all the goods &c. there and confined such of the inhabitants as they suspected of being loyal.

Such a situation of affairs requires every exertion on the part of the Officers of my Department to preserve the Province and annoy the Enemy. I therefore dispatch Mr. Bethune to the Nation with the Chiefs who are at Mobile to march with as many White and Red as he can muster to the Natchez District on the Mississippi, from the Western Party. The Six Villages I think should be employed upon the Lakes, and passes of the Amit and

and Iberville leading from the Mississippi, and harrassing the rebels at Manchac, with all their Traders, while the Eastern party and the Chickasahays will be ready [p 296] to scout upon the Tombechby.

Mr. Colbert declined going again into the Chickasaw Nation to remain as assistant but said he would very willingly be employ'd upon any service, There is no time to be lost in sending him or some proper person to put the Chickasaws in motion, and I trust that the Traders will upon this occasion join in promoting the service with disinterested zeal, without regard to a few Skins, had the Chickasaws done what was required of them we might have had earlier intelligence of this invasion.

You will give every assistance to Mr Bethune by furnishing him with the necessary quantity of Goods, Arms and Ammunition, to encourage the Indians and to purchase provisions, this must be done by what you have in store or by purchase, I wish you could borrow as I am in a Situation to repay.

I cannot take upon me to direct your own particular service, you must judge from Circumstances, and I hope you will give your presence and lead wherever most necessary, and send off immediately to

Mr McIntosh in the Chickasaw Nation to exert himself, I shall endeavour to engage Mr Jno McGillevray's assistance which I dare say he will give with chearfulness, I need not again recommend to you to engage the assistance of every White man you can

I am &c &c

Charles Stuart Esqr.

Endorsed Pensacola 2d March 1778 /Copy of a letter (p. 240)
from the /Superintendant /to /Charles Stuart Esqr /In
Mr Stuarts (N°22) of /5th March 1778. /(2.)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECT[illegible] DIVISION, LI[illegible]

[From John Forbes]

[p. 239]

Pensacola March 2nd. 1779

Sir

Having received certain information that a party of twenty rebels have taken possession of Manchac, they are supposed to be the vanguard of a much greater number come to Settlements on the Mississippi, it therefore becomes incumbent upon you and all the Officers in my Department to take every practicable step for the preservation of the Province and the annoyance of the Kings enemies.

Your presence will be immediately necessary in the Chactaw Nation with the ruling Chiefs who are at Mobile, you will without Loss of time repair to your Station, and with as many Indians and Traders as you can prevail upon to accompany you, March to the relief of his Majestys faithfull Subjects who may be in distress, seizing and otherwise annoying all such as have Declared for the Rebels, or who upon information you shall have reason to think attached to them at Natchez.

In the service abovementioned the upper Towns or Western party may be the Indians to be employed with the greatest propriety. As I think to employ the Six Villages and their Traders upon

the Lakes and passes leading to them at Manchac,
and upon this subject I will write fully to Mr Charles
Stuart, with whom you will confer, and who shall
[p. 220] have orders to supply / you with Guns and Ammu-
-nition, and whatever other necessary you may require

I am &c &c

Farquhar Bethune Esqr.

[p. 222] Endorsed / Pensacola 2d March 1778 / Copy of a Letter
from the / Superintendant / to / Farquhar Bethune Esqr. /
In Mr Stuart's (N°22) of / 5th March 1778. / (3.)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTI DIVISION, LI

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE LIBRARY

West Florida

[p. 228]

By His Excellency Peter Chester Esquire
Captain General and Governor in Chief
in and over His Majestys Province of
West Florida and the Territories de-
-pending thereon in America Chan-
-cellor and Vice Admiral of the same &c

a Proclamation

Whereas the keeping the Southern Indians in the Kings Interest and the Obvious disadvan-
-tage of loseing their friendship do at this time re-
-quire the utmost attention of all His Majestys Ser-
-vants in the Neighbourhood of those Indians. And whereas the Art and Industry used by the Agents of the Rebels to withdraw the Affections of the said Indians from His Majesty is an Alarming Circum-
-stance at this Juncture and renders it absolutely Necessary to Apply the Most Effectual Means to/de- [p. 229]
-prive them of all possibility of resourse by any Con-
-traband trade which they may Endeavour to Carry on under pretence of being friends to Government. I have therefore thought fit in Consequence of Orders for that purpose from His Excellency the Honorable Sir William Howe Knight of the most Honorable order of the Bath Commander in Chief of His Majestys forces

on the Atlantic Ocean and one of His Majestys Commissioners &c and also by Virtue of the Powers and Authorities in Me Vested by His Majesty And by and with the Unanimous Advice and Consent of His Majesty's Honorable Council for this Province and I do by the Authorities aforesaid Issue this my Proclamation hereby Strictly Charging and Commanding All and all manner of persons who may have heretofore Obtained Licences from Me to Trade in any Town or Towns in any of the Nations of Indians within the Southern District of North America to desist from the said Trade untill further Orders from me And that they do on or before Tuesday the Tenth day of
[p.219] February Next / Return their said Licences respectively into the Secretary's Office at Pensacola. And Whereas Nothing is more liable to destroy the minds of the Indians and render them incapable of Judging of their true Interest than Drunkenness I do therefore hereby Strictly Prohibit any person or persons whomsoever from henceforth Sending or Carrying any Rum into any Town or Towns of any of the Nations of Indians in the District aforesaid and also from Selling giving or Otherwise disposing of any Rum to any of the said Indians within any part of this Province without having first Obtained

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a particular Licence to that Effect from Me or from the Honorable John Stuart Esquire His Majesty's Sole Agent for and Superintendant of Indian Affairs for the Southern District of North America. And I do hereby also Strictly Charge and Command all Merchants and Other the Trading Inhabitants of this Province who now are in possession of any Quantity of Rum that they do respectively make a true Report thereof to Mr Stuart the Superintendant or any of his Deputies duly Authorized to receive the same on or before the following days (to wit) The Merchants and other The Trading Inhabitants of Pensacola District on or before Tuesday the thirteenth Instant. The Merchants and Other the trading Inhabitants of Mobile District on or before Monday the twenty Sixth Instt. The Merchants and Other the trading Inhabitants of Manchack District on or before friday the twentieth day of February Next. And the Merchants and other the Trading Inhabitants of the Natchez District on or before Tuesday the tenth day of March Next And also that all Rum which shall or may be hereafter Imported by any person or persons within this Province and particularly in the Ports of Pensacola and Mobile be immediately Stored and not disposed of without a Licence being first Obtained from Me or the said Superintendant

And I do hereby declare that all and every person and Persons within this Province or in any of the Nations [p. 249] of Indians within the Southern District aforesaid who shall or may presume in any Article to disobey or Evade this Proclamation will be Seized and imprisoned as Enemies of the State abetting and assisting the Rebels. The Commanding Officer of the Troops in this Province having received Orders from His Excellency the Honorable Sir William Howe to Aid and Support the Civil Governor and the Superintendant whenever such Occas-ions may render his Assistance Necessary Where-of all Persons whom it may Concern within this Government are directed to take due No-tice and regulate themselves Accordingly.

Given Under my hand and the Great Seal of this His Majesty's Province of West Florida in the Council Chamber at Pensacola this tenth day of January in the Eighteenth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third by the Grace of God of Great Brit-ain France and Ireland

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTION

King Defender of / the faith [&c.and]
and so forth Annoque Dom.
-ini 1778

Petr. Chester

By His Excellencys Command.
James Murray for
Ph. Livingston Junr Dsecty

God save the King

Ed.

Endorsed 'Copy of Governor Chesters / Proclamation re-
-specting / Trade and Rum - / In Mr. Stuarts (No 22) / of
5th March 1778. (4.) / dr

[p.229]

Pensacola 24th March 1778.

Sir

I am honoured with your letter of the 15th October which was forwarded to me by Admiral Gayton, with the bills of parcels and Invoice of a supply of Arms and Ammunition and other Indian presents, of which Lord George Germain acquainted me in his letter of the 11th of same Month. Admiral Gayton forwarded the Goods to me, in His Majestys Ships Southampton Sylph and Hound, and I have received all the packages in good order, and apparently free of damage; They arrived here at a very good time, and when I was much in want of presents of every sort. Those sent me by the Southampton and Sylph I received the begining of this Month, the remainder have since been delivered to me by the Hound.

[p.230]

/The assortment by the bills of parcells appears to be very good, I have not as yet opened any of them.

I shall to the utmost of my Knowlege and abilities apply them for the good of His Majestys service: and I hope that they will prove conducive to attain the end for which they were ordered to be sent out by His Majestys Ministers.

I have the honour of being

Sir / Your most Obedient

& most humble Servant

John Stuart

William Knox Esqr. Under Secretary of State

Endorsed. Pensacola 24th. March 1778. | Mr. Stuart. |
Ult. | Pd 6th July. | Entd

[p.203]

(No. 4.)

Pensacola 16th Septemr 1776.

Duplicate)

My Lord .

In my last letters to your Lordship No.5. & 6. I had the honour of submiting the situation of affairs in my department, and Copies of such pieces of Intelligence as might give your Lord-ship the clearest idea thereof, since which I have not been honoured with any Commands from your Lordship, or the Commander in Chief of His Majestys Forces in America.

I have now the honour of laying be-fore your Lordship Copies of two letters which I have received from my deputy in the Creek Nation, dated the 14th & 26th Ultimate, as also of Talks sent in and distributed in the Na-tion, and of my letters to Mr. Tait and the lower Creeks, and I am in daily expectation of Receiving answers to my former letters to Mr. Tait, and of being informed of the situ-ation of the Cherokee Indians who I am afraid [p.204] by their precipitate Conduct have drawn the rebel forces upon their Country.

I have received no letters from Mr. Cam-eron since Mr. Henry Stuarts arrival here. Since my arrival at this place the 24th July, I have

received no intelligence of any sort except what comes through the Indian Nations untill this day that some News-papers from Jamaica inform us that Genl Clinton and Sir Peter Parkers Expedition at Charlestown has proved unsuccessful, and that the Navy and Army employed upon it had sailed to the Northward, to join Lord and Genl Howe, this will give the Rebels great spirits, and as they are now without any opposition to contend with I am very apprehensive of their turning their force against the Indians, to free themselves against any apprehensions of danger from that quarter, either by destroying or forcing them to join them.

I have communicated to Governor Chester what intelligence I have at different times received of the intentions of the Rebels to attack this Province, and there are many reports and roumours to the same purpose propogated among the Inhabitants of this pro- [p. 288] vince upon the Rivers Amit and Mississippi, who are suspected of not being well affected to Government. I must acknowledge in my own mind I have very little doubt of their entertaining such an idea, while I am very sorry to think they may put it into execution [Sic] with little or no resistance, as the Province is certainly in a very defenceless state; should it take place our intercourse with all the Indian Nations

will be cut off, and then the Indians from princi-
-ples of self preservation must unite themselves to the
Rebels. The amazing tract of Country to the east-
-ward of the Mississippi, and the Rivers falling in-
-to it, blessed with the finest Climate and richest
Soil, and only inhabited by a few wretched Indians,
must be a very attracting object to the Rebels at this
time, when they would find a happy assylum and
retreat, should they fail of success, and this Idea
they have strongly entertained for these fifteen years
past to my certain knowledge.)

I have now to submit to your Lordship the
steps which I am taking from the late intelligence-
[p.856]
from Charles Stuart who is now here sets off imme-
-diately for the Chactaw Nation in order to cultivate
their friendship, to aid vigorously in support of
Government if required and to get a body of them
to hunt upon the Mississippi at a certain Station
called the little Gulph where they must see any body
of Rebels destined for this Province, where the Missis-
-sippi is not above a quarter of a mile broad.

I shall likewise require of the Chickasaws to
guard the pass through their Country to the head
of Tombeckby to prevent any attack by that Channel.
I at the same time propose to Station another party
of them where the old French fort stood at the confluence

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of the Cherokee and the Ohio Rivers, and Attaculla-
-culla or the Little Carpenter who has just left me,
has engaged to post himself at such a Station up-
-on the Ohio with a strong party of his Countrymen
that the Rebels shall not be able to pass by in
security.

The Creek Nation I shall engage to hunt at such convenient distances from this and their own towns that they may have it in their power to repair to either at a very short warning. I shall endeavour to have such a body
[p.207]
of Chactaws / (between whom and the Creeks a reconciliation must take place) hunting in the neighbourhood of Mobile that they shall be ready to join in case of any emer-
-gency in a very few days notice, these appear to me to be the only practicable and prudent precautions that can be taken by me upon the present occasion, and I hope that they will meet with approbation. I shall at the same time Communicate the measures to be pursued by me to Governor Chester and pay the greatest attention to his opinion and advice.

I have the honour of being with the greatest respect

My Lord / Your Lordships

Most obedient and / most humble Servant

John Stuart

The Right Honble Lord George Germain
His Majestys principal Secretary of State
for the American Department &c &c

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[p. 258]

Endorsed ✓Pensacola 16th Septr 1776. /Colonel Stuart/
(No. 4) / Ry 21st July 1778./(Dup - origl not receed)/Entd

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[p 259]

(N°. 8) Pensacola 16th Septem.r 1776.

Duplicate

My Lord

Upon my arrival at this place I was in-
=formed of the death of Mr. John Thomas my late
deputy upon the Mississippi district, as the Indians
in that quarter have been so long used to the Su-
-perintendency of an Officer, I cannot think it pru-
-dent in the present situation of American affairs to
leave them without One, I have therefore appointed my
brother Mr. Henry Stuart to succeed Mr Thomas in that
office, and I hope my Lord that from his late services
in my department, your Lordship will be pleased to
approve of the choice as I can faithfully aver that no
predilection in his favour would have induced me to
have made it if I did not know him to be quali-
-fied in every respect for the faithful execution and
discharge of his duty. [p 260]

I have the honour of being with the greatest respect

My Lord / Your Lordships

Most obedient and

most humble Servant

John Stuart

The Right Honble Lord George Germain
His Majestys principal Secretary of
State for the American department &c &c

[p. 262]

Endorsed 'Pensacola 16th Septr 1776. | Colonel Stuart. |

(No. 8) | Ry 21st July 1778. | Entd

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[to Germain]

[p. 268]

(No. 9) Pensacola 16th Septem: 1776.

Duplicate

My Lord

Since closing my dispatch No. 8. the two letters of which I have the honour of submiting copies came to hand, I have just time to put this letter on board the vessel which sails immediately for Jamaica, as the letters contain the latest information of the State of affairs in the Creek and Cherokee Nations, of which I wish your Lordship to be fully informed.

Encls not recvd.

I have the honour of being with the greatest respect

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient and

most humble Servant

John Stuart

Endorsed ✓ Pensacola 16d Septr 1776. / Lol. Stuart / (No. 9) / [p. 266]

Rd 21 July 1778. / Entd

(N° 29)

Pensacola 5th March 1778.

My Lord

I beg leave to return your Lordship my most sincere thanks, for having obtained for and forwarded to me, His Majestys Commission appointing me Colonel of the several Indian Nations within the Southern District; by which I consider myself most highly honoured, and beg your Lordship will be assured that it was and is not my intention in the smallest degree, to interfere in the Military Department which will be much more ably conducted by persons brought up in that line of life: but His Majestys Commission will obtain for me that compliment and respect at Congresses and publick meetings with Indians which is essentialy necessary for the good of (p.265) His Majestys Service, by placing me in a respectable point of view in their eyes.

I have the honour of being with the utmost respect

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most obedient and

Most humble servant

John Stuart

The Right Honble Lord George Germain
His Majestys principal Secretary of State
for the American Department pr pea

Endorsed]

[f 270]

Endorsed ✓ Pensacola 5th March 1778. / Colonel Stuart /

(No 23) / Ry 21st July. / Entd

[p. 271]

Duplicate

Pensacola 2d May 1778.

(No 24)

My Lord

I herewith send duplicate of the letter which I had the honour of writing to your Lordship 13th April since which I have not been honoured with any of your Lordships Commands.

Governor Chester will fully inform your Lordship of the transactions upon the Mississippi, to which I beg your Lordship will be referred, being surrounded by a Crowd of Indians this day arrived I cannot without much difficulty recollect myself sufficiently to give an account of matters immediately under my own direction.

In Consequence of my orders to Mr Bethune he proceeded with a party of about One hundred and twenty Choctaw Indians, and the majority of Traders and other white people in that Nation, to assist and protect the inhabitants of the Natchez District upon the Mississippi, and I am informed that he has since been followed, by about two hundred more Indians, a much greater number if required would have gone. I submit to your Lordship a few lines which I received from him [p. 272] four days ago, when he was only eighteen miles from said settlement, with Copies of two letters from Mr Anthony Hutchins, by which your Lordship will see the

spirited reception given by the inhabitants, to a party of Rebels, who went up the River from New Orleans their place of Arms, on purpose to Destroy and plunder their plantations, and as they are now so strongly reinforced they have nothing to fear from the Rebels at New Orleans, and may stand a much greater Body should they make a further descent by the Mississippi. Capt. Jackson with a part of his Company of Loyal Refugees went also with Mr Bethune, since which the Natchez District has been further reinforced by Lieut. Col. McGillivray with a Body of Indians and his Corps of Provincials.

At the most pressing solicitation of the Inhabitants of the Mississippi Governor Chester with the advice of his Majestys Council has determined to take post at Manshac, where we are informed the Houses are all standing. As a greater number than Seventy five men could not be conveniently spared from the Garrison of this place I have added fifty Loyal Refugees to be under the Command of the Officer Commanding the Troops. From this measure it is hoped the inhabitants will be induced to repossess their plantations in time sufficient to raise provisions for another year.

My deputy upon the Mississippi Mr H. Stuart who took refuge in New Orleans has retired on board the Sylph man of War. The small Tribes in his District

[illegible] sent him word that they will join him whenever he returns to Manshac, which with whatever number of men can be sent them by Colonel McGillivray and Mr Bethune will give protection to such inhabitants as may return.

A party of Rebels who were sent from New Orleans to plunder the plantations upon the Mississippi fell in with some Chactaws at the house of Mr Dutton seven Leagues above Manshac. The Indians had been hunting and returned Loaded with Bears Oil to dispose of to the inhabitants, they were fired upon by the Rebels and one of them killed, upon which they threw down their burdens and retreated untill the Rebels had embarked, and supposing that Mr Dutton had joined them, and was accessary to the Murder of their companion, in a transport of rage they Burnt and destroyed what the Rebels had spared. All which will fully appear to your Lordship from the inclosed affidavit of Mr Dutton now here.

Don Bernardo de Galvez Governor of New Orleans is most assiduous in making a party amongst the Chactaws of the Six Villages. That part of the Nation [p.27a] as they are most contiguous to New Orleans, had always before the Cession of this Country to Great Britain been strongly attached to the French interest, in so much that they and the English party of their Nation were

at your War. After Mobile and Pensacola were evac-
-uated by the French and Spaniards, I had much
trouble in gaining them to our interest, and recon-
-ciling the different parties, The Spanish Government re-
-tained in their Service the French Officers principally
concerned in managing these Indians who are now
very active: and an English house a New Orleans Messrs
Morgan & Mather who are also Spanish Subjects lately
imported from London £8000. Sterling in goods for In-
-dian presents, which greatly strengthens Señor Galvez's
hands. I beg your Lordship will be assured that no-
-thing in my power shall be wanting to counteract
the Machinations of the Spaniards and Rebels. I am
told that almost all the French inhabitants in this
province are privately employed by Monsr. de Galvez
as Agents they all talk the Spanish Language.

In my former Letters I had the honour of ac-
-quainting your Lordship that my Officers in the Creek
Nation Messrs Tait and Mc Intosh had returned to their
respective Stations, and that I was in hopes they would
be well received, the letters which I have received from
[p. 295] them since their arrival in the Nation, of which I have
the honour of submitting Extracts, will evince to your
Lordship that my hopes were not ill grounded, both of
them were well received and are now fixed in their
respective Stations.- and the Leading Chiefs of all the

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Towns in the Rebel Interest are now here, with a very considerable number of attendants in order to make their peace, in the whole they will amount to about four hundred people. As it will be some days before our Conferences is finished; I cannot give your Lord-ship a particular account of our proceedings until the Next packet sails: But, as there are chiefs of the first consequence from all the disaffected Towns, I have great hopes that there will be no rebel party in that Nation very soon. This has been a very difficult Task to Execute, The Sale of the Cherokees, the exagg-ated accounts of the Rebels Power, which their Agents instilled into the Indians, The depressed Situation of His Majestys Loyal Subjects in the Southern Provinces, and no appearance of any exertion for their relief on the part of Government filled the Indians of all the Southern Nations with a dread, which in a great meas-ure weighed against all my influence, The advantages of Trade, and the great presents which they received. I never was without a [p. 270] great majority in favour of Gov-ernment, and never doubted of the attachment of all the Indians to His Majestys Cause, if the reasons above assigned had not operated so strongly, and I am cer-tain the Ideas of the few disaffected never went be-yond that of neutrality. Therefore altho' no great ac-tion has been done by them, our party has constantly

Heart the Rebel Frontiers alarmed: and any attempt upon this province, in rather a defenceless State till lately, has effectually been prevented. Which I hope will appear to your Lordship an essential service altho not altogether what might have been expected. But I hope your Lordship will allow for the many and apparent difficulties I have hitherto laboured under, and if the Indians could have any assurances of being supported by His Majestys Troops to the Southward, I am well convinced that they would unanimously join in this Cause. Yet I must represent to your Lordship that the Lower Creeks have rendered essential service at St Augustine, and upon the Frontiers of Georgia, where all their operations were directed against the Enemies Scouts, without falling upon the defenceless inhabitants, for which I think they have merit.

I am to acquaint your Lordship that in (p 247) obedience to orders received from Sir Wm Howe, I have formed a fourth Company of Loyal Refugees under the Command of Capt Wm Mc Intosh, a Lieut in General Frasers Regiment during last War. He was settled upon the Mississippi and suffered greatly by the ravages of the Rebels, he collected together about forty Loyal Subjects who are willing to serve under his Command, which I thought an acquisition

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not to be overlooked at this time. They are mostly on board the Sylph Man of War, with them Capt. Mc. Intosh is to join the Detachment which goes to Manshac. This I hope will meet your Lordship's approbation

I have the Honour of being with the most respect

My Lord

your Lordships

Most Obedient and

most humble Servant

Geo. Stuart

The Right Hon.ble Lord George Germain
His Majestys Principal Secretary of State
for the Americ.n Department &c &c

Endorsed "Pensacola 2d May 1778. / Colonel Stuart / (N.24.) / p. 27.
My 23d July. / (Dup.e Orig.l not recvd.) / (8 Inclosures.) / Ent.d

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

[p. 249]

Copy

Chota Cherokee Nation 20th Feb. 1778

Dear Sir

I take this oportunity of writing to you re-
-questing to know whether there has been any re-
-ward offered for me by your Orders if so I cer-
-tainly must be misrepresented to you it is too well
known that I have never Entered into any of
the American Resolutions as I have suffered very
Considerable by refusing so to do I understand
Mr Mc Daniel has made some Offers but cannot
believe it's by your Orders - If you should want
me I have no objections against coming to you as
I am well assured you would rather Help than
Punish. the Indians here are allowed no Trade
from you which I am sorry for - I can assure
you their attachment to his Majesty is as
Strong as ever only their present situation will
not allow them to shew it. I intreat you in
behalf of them to send them Traders in thes-
towns - I assure you on the Faith of a Christ-
-ian that they shall be safe if Mr Golphin dont
prevail on the Creeks to Rob the Traders which
I understand he has attempted. I earnestly beg
to hear from you as soon as possible if you
will allow any Goods to come hear I will send
agreable to your Direction.

should write my Sentiments to in full only
fear of the Letters being intercepted – but Mr Vann
can inform you – I wait your answer with great
impatience

I am D^{r} Sir

your humble & most Obt Servt

Signed ..... Jo^{s} Martin

To Lieut Col Stuart

(2621)

Endorsed Chota Cherokee Nation 20th February 1778
Copy of Joseph Martins letter to the Superintendant
In Lieu Stuarts (N^{o} 24) of 2d May 1778. (1.)

[p.295]

Copy Camp at Humo Chitto 17th April 1778

Sir

I have only time to inclose you the two letters I this moment received from Mr Hutchins and have the happiness to acquaint you of their success- The Indians travel slowly & fret me much it is not in my Power to hurry them lest I should disoblige them. I have ordered send Captn Pearis's Company of Rangers to Fabre Post at the Natchez after this Affair they certainly deserve Protection now- I shall not lose a moment.

I am Sir

Your Most Obt & Most Humble

Servant

Signed Geo. Bethune

The Bearer McMulligan was

Present at the action I sent him before

His Excellcy Jno Stuart

[p.296]

Endorsed: Camp Humo Chito 17 April 1778 / Copy of Lieut. Bethunes / letter to the Superintendant / In Col. Stuarts (No 24) of / 2d May 1778. / (2.)

[p.203]

Copy

Sir

Your favour of the 11th Instant I received the hope of your coming gives Life and Spirit to our People, we are now encamp'd at the White Cliffs and expect an attack every moment, the Rebels are within four Miles of us at this time, we are strangers to their number their private letters intercepted prove their wicked intentions for God sake hasten forward a Party to our Assistance, I hope our men are too brave to submit to any opposition that may be made by Villains who Act upon such base & wicked Principles as they do, we only again plead for immediate Relief &c

I am Your most Humble Servt

Signed Anthony Hutchins

P.S: Mr McIntosh is at our Camp he begs your exertions

15th April 1778

To Mr Ferqr Bethune

[p.203]

Endorsed White Cliffs 15th April 1778 / Copy of Mr Anthy Hutchins's / letter to Farqr Bethune Esqr / In Col: Stuarts / (No 24) / of 2d May 1778. / (3.)

Sir

This morning sent an Express to the intent that you might favour us with some kind of Aid, we acquainted you that the Rebels were then within four miles of us & as they were indeed for within a quarter of an hour or less they appeared in sight and hurried to where we were posted & fired upon us, but God delivered them into our hands after a very smart Engagement for a short time we were so fortunate as not to Loose a man & had but one wounded yet I hope & expect he will recover who was Capt: Perry. Mr Mc Intosh is a Little hurt but not worth mentioning of on the Enemys side five were killed and three wounded one of whom cant recover.

I understand there are more of them on their way up the River besides they have sent for a reinforcement, we therefore beg you'd send us relief, our men are Brave but we are too few in number besides much Artifice has been made use of to frustrate our designs in the defence of our country, I forgot to mention the number of Prisoners which are about twenty two or twenty three which are now under Guard. I only mean to acquaint of our Success in this small enterprise and to plead for immediate assistance we have but but finished the Battle and are securing our Prisoners & taking care of the wounded

burying the Dead &c. You'll excuse this piece of Dirty paper and am rather Confused. my best respects to Mr. McPhearson to whom I must at this time write the Persons killed were Capt Harrison, Jas Kennady the Gunner, Lieut: Richd Ellis, the Boxon, Jas Saxon, & George Williams, Mr McIntosh presents his best respects & wishes the Hapiness of a Sight of you and your Family.

I beg leave to subscribe myself your much Injured & distres'd Humbl Servt

Signed Anthony Hutchins

Mississippi the 15th April 1778 at the White Cliffs at our Camp

Fargs Bethune Esqr

[p. 2(w)]
Endorsed Camp White Cliffs 15 Apl 1778. / Copy of Mr Anth.y Hutchinss / letter to Fargs Bethune Esqr / In Colo Stuarts (No. 24) / of 2d May 1778. / (4)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIO[redacted]

[p. 295]

Pensacola

I William Dutton late planter on the River Mississippi declare upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that I have suffered a loss of Seven thousand and forty dollars by the American Rebels and Chactaw Indians. The latter I verily believe never intended to hurt me or any Loyal British Subject, but from their belief of my having joined the Rebels, occasioned by me and my family being carried away prisoners by those Rebels, and their being fired upon on or near my plantation, on their way to the Nore loaded with Oil for sale, which the Rebels deprived them of, as well as the life of one of them, which they killed. This induced them to commit those depredations which they otherwise would not have thought of, they having during my short residence there behaved themselves with uncommon respect and friendship towards me and my family

Signed

Wm Dutton

Sworn before me
this 1st May 1778
J. Lorimer J.P. Signed

Endorsed Copy of Wm Duttons Affidavit respecting the Loss he sustained by the Rebels & Chactaws - In Colo Stuarts (No 24) of 2d April 1778. (5.)

Copy

Kitchitaws 3rd April 1778

Sir

I arrived here safe Eight days ago with the Alagatai's Agent had a General meeting of all the Lower Towns here Yesterday; matters seem to be in a very fair way of doing well, the Tall King & some other Chiefs from the Cussitaws attended and have made great promises to me before all the Towns Creek Chiefs, that they will for the time to come have no further communication with the Rebels but will attend to talks that I may have from time to time from you, and expect to receive their goods entirely from you; in consequence of those Promises I have permitted Mims & Thomas Miller to go into their Town with Eight Pieces Strouds and every thing equivalent.

Lambeth the Rebel Trader who has been waiting this some time past for a Large of Goods is still in the Cussitaws and has got a great number of Skins from the Indians on Trust the Tall King promised me that he should not be allowed to stay long among them, this Morning was informed that on the arrival of our Traders the Young Fellows insisted on taking all the Skins from Lambeth and give them to Mims & Miller, I dare say they will make their words good before Tomorrow. By

invitation from the Cussitaws shall visit them in a
[p. 300]
day or two and shall insist on Lambeths being de-
-livered up to me or drove out of the Nation, Jim
Bernard was with me yesterday and say Lambeth wish-
-es much to leave the Rebels and go to Pensacola pro-
-vided he would be forgiven, I sent him word that
if he went to Pensacola you would take care he would
not suffer for his past behavior am of opinion he
will deliver himself up

The Governor of St Augustine sent up Young
Perryman a half Breed Indian who I met here, to get
down all the Indians that he possible could from
the lower Creeks to Join the Troops on an Expedition
against Georgia, a great number from this Town, the
Chehaws and Flint River intends to follow Perryman to
be in Augustine or at the River St Marys by the Mid-
-dle of next Month.

I am Dr Sir your most obt ~~Hble~~ Servt

Signed — Wm McIntosh

To the Honble Jno Stuart Esqr

[p. 302]
Endorsed Hitchitas 3d April 1778. / Extract of Wm McIntosh
Esqr / letter to the Superintendant / Jn Lodr Stuart (N.24) /
of 2d May 1778. /(6)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE LIBRARY DIVISION, LIBRARY

[f. 303]

Copy. Little Tallassie 7th April 1778

Sir

The bearer is a Chief Warrior of the Nat-
-chee Tribe, and was out last Year beyond the Chero-
-kee Nation with the big Man he has just called
here on his way with a party about Thirty in-
number to their Father for the first time, they have
always been well affected to Government.

As he is in a hurry I have not time
to write you so fully as I could wish nor what
you may expect, but shall do myself that pleas-
-ure in a Day or two, let it Suffice to say that
I met the Chiefs of the Abicas & Tallapuses at the
Muchlassies on the 30th Ult.o who all Seemed highly
satisfied at my return and at the Talks given
them, The Abica Chiefs accompanied me to this
place and they conveyed their Traders home, I
have for Certain reasons permited the Trade into
the Great Tallassie Town, Oakfushee, Euchapoga &
Corn House, and am in hopes of bringing them
to reason soon they seem inclinable to pay me
a Visit but Suppose wait to see what fresh Sup-
-ply Galphin sends them first. The Oakfushees de-
-sired me to go & Speak with them in their
own Town, but I thought it more prudent to
decline the invitation by desiring to see them here

on their way to you which they have promised. they seem to talk of holding with Parlys fast, but I suppose a little time will alter their resolutions as the present cloud seems to disperse

I have the honour to be Sir
your Most Obt Humble Servt
David Taitt

Col. Jno Stuart

(p. 306)

Endorsed "Little Tallassie 7 April 1778 / Extract of David Tait Esqr / letter to the Superintendant. / In Lt. Stuarts (No 24) / of 2d May 1778. / (Y.)

[p. 207]

Little Tallassie April 13th 1778

Sir

I wrote you the 4th Inst by a leader of the Natchie Tribe, and have now the Pleasure to acquaint you that I have succeeded so farr with the Oakfushees Indians as to get them to go to Pensacola to settle matters with you, they are to be there on the 15th, and dare say that they will take twelve or fifteen days after that to get to Pensacola as there will be a great number of them I suppose upwards of two hundred men & Women and Should the Tallesse Kings son accompany them there will be twice that Number, it is impossible to prevent these followers, when their Chiefs go they will accompany them, the last message that I sent them by the young man that came to invite me there was very satisfactory and Caused them to agree to go to see you besides they are disappointed in their expectation from the Rebels, no goods being come up, and by the accounts that several Indians bring from there, the Rebels have got none to send them.

Red Shoes, the Mad Dog & several other head Warriors are gone to try what they can do with the Tallassee King & his son, as the Oakfushee Chiefs are come to, I believe the

ctions will", as they seem to say the Oakfuskees are the Principle in this Affair

Sir

Your Most Obt. Humble Servt
Signed David Taitt

To Col. Stuart

Sp 310]

Endorsed / Little Tallassie 13 April 1778 / Extract of David Tail Esqr. / letter to the Superintendant / Inclo Stuarts (No. 24) / of 2d May 1778. / (8) / dr.

[p. 28]

Pensacola 18th May 1778

Sir

By the Comet Packet lately arrived from St. Augustine I am honoured with your Letters of 3d & 9th April 1777 the former covering bill of Lading, bills of parcels & Invoice of Goods Shipped by order of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury on board the Springfeild Transport for Saint Augustine for my Disposal, and the Letter covering several Copies of an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament to detain and Secure Persons charged with or Suspected of the Crime of High Treason committed in any of His Majestys Colonies or Plantations or on the high Seas, or the Crime of Piracy. Your said Dispatches had been detained at St Augustine ever since the Arrival of the Springfeild there, & I had no intelligence from thence of the Arrival of the Vessel & Goods for me, before the Arrival of the last Packet, which sailed from said place the 25th February, which I cannot account for. It is probable the whole quantity will be wanted there as great Numbers of Indians resort thither, where they are active and usefull in His Majestys [p. 29] Service

I have the honour of being with Respect

Sir / Your most obedient

most humble Sevt

John Stuart

William Knox Esqr

[p. 318]

Private

Pensacola 18 May 1778

Sir

Permit me to introduce to you the bearer Mr Alexander Ross, as a person upon whose information of Occurrances in this Province and at New Orleans you may safely depend. His former Services under my Lord Dunmore his personal Sufferings and Losses in the Cause of Loyalty may probably obtain for him your Countenance and as he is very Intelligent I doubt not but you will have Satisfaction in his Conversation and be induced to pardon the Liberty which I take in introducing him to you —

Mr Ross was present at the last meeting I had at this place with the Oakfushee and Cussitah Indians when our differences were Amicably Adjusted. They have returned to their Nation apparently in the best disposition the Rough Treatment which the Cherokees met with has had a bad effect upon the Southern Nations, and dread of sharing the same fate has inclined them to wish for a Neutrality. Yet I can depend upon a great majority of the Nation taking an active part whenever required

The Spanish Governour Don Bernardo de Galvez has of late been endeavoring to make a party amongst [p. 319] the Chactaw Indians, having invited several parties of

them to New Orleans, where he gave them handsome presents and acquainted them that some time this Month the Rebels were to deliver up this Province to the Spaniards this is the Account given by the Indians. however it is certain that Mr Galveg has been tampering with them, and that many of the French inhabitants about the Lakes have been employed by him as Emmissaries

I am with sincere esteem and Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient and

most humble Servt

John Stuart

William Knox Esqr.

[Spanish] Endorsed Pensacola 18th May 1778. / Colonel Stuart. /

(Private) WK / Ry 23d July. / Encl